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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

LABOR AREA RESEARCH PUBLICATION

RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT UP CONSIDERABLY IN AREA

The rate of unemployment in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area jumped considerably from 4.8 percent in December to 6.7 percent in January (a four year record high for the month). The unemployment rate for the state also rose sharply during this period, from 4.4 percent to 6.4 percent, while the rate for the nation went from 6.9 percent to 8.2 percent. All rates are seasonally unadjusted.

Over the month nonagricultural employment declined by 8,300 jobs. This was the largest drop in nonfarm employment in January since the recession of 1975. Most of the decline in payrolls, can be attributed to the usual seasonal changes, such as reductions in personnel in wholesale and retail trade after the holiday season, between semester sessions affecting employment at both private and public schools, many other service-oriented jobs normally held by students during regular school terms, and the normal decline in contract construction during January. However, the exceptional decline in nonagricultural wages and salary employment this January occurred in the manufacturing sector where producers of both hard goods and soft goods reported a more than usual decline in employment.

EFFECTS OF NATIONAL RECESSION SURFACE

Because of the strong industrial base and diversification of industries in each of the industrial categories, the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area was able to do very well during the current recession which began in the second quarter of 1980. However, with the start of the new year, the number of claimants of unemployment insurance benefits rose sharply, reaching 10,400, the highest number since January 1977. Nonagricultural emplovment in January 1981 at 226,600 was the lowest since January 1978, wiping out the gains which took place in 1979 and 1980.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

In the month of January, applicant surplus occupations in Job Matching Service offices in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA included electronics mechanics and assemblers, accountants and bookkeepers, secretaries (both legal and medical), teachers (elementary through college level), and truck drivers (both heavy and light equipment).

CHICOPEE AND HOLYOKE FIRMS PLAN EXPANSION

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) is an independent public agency designed to stimulate increased employment by offering important financing incentives to expanding firms in the state. Incentives include tax-exempt financing and industrial and commercial mortgage insurance.

Recently MIFA approved a $370,000 tax-exempt bond to finance the purchase of additional equipment by Bobby Brooks, Ltd., a manufacturer of knitted textile fabrics in Chicopee. As a result, the company expects to add 40 new jobs.

A $1.5 million bond was also approved by MIFA to the Holmar Distributors, Inc., distributors of kitchen household products in Holyoke. The firm will purchase a 6½ acre lot with an existing 150,000 square foot industrial plant in Garfield Street. This expansion is expected to add 23 new jobs.

HEALTH SERVICES INDUSTRIES AND EMPLOYMENT REPORT

A report was recently completed on the health services industry comparing employment in this industry in Massachusetts with that of the nation and that of the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA. Emphasis is placed on supply and demand for workers in this rapidly growing field. Those wishing to obtain a copy of this publication can write to the address specified on page 2 of this profile.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
LABOR FORCE	271,600	278,800	266,700
Employment	253,400	265,700	251,600
Unemployment	18,200	13,100	15,100
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.7	4.7	5.6
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	857	1,656	798
Continued Weeks Claimed	9,869	3,486	6,859

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	19,652	10,304	2,698	5,818	11,327
New Applicants (This Month)	2,299	850	351	528	476

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	JAN 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	1,339
Openings Received	769

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS *	EMPLOYMENT (000's) JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL			
Nonmanufacturing - Total			
Construction			
Trans. & public utilities			
Wholesale & retail trade			
Finance, ins. & real estate			
Services & mining			
Government			

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS *	EMPLOYMENT (000's) JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
Manufacturing - Total			
Durable Goods - Total			
Primary metal industries			
Fabricated metal products			
Machinery (exc. electrical)			
Spec. ind. mach.			
Gen. ind. mach.			
Other mach. (ex. elec.)			
Electric equip.			
Transportation equip.			
Other durable goods			
Nondurable Goods - Total			
Textile mill products			
Apparel & other textile prod.			
Paper & paper products			
Printing & publishing			
Chemicals & allied prod.			
Rubber & misc. plastics			

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS *	JAN 1981	DEC 1980	JAN 1980
Average Weekly Earnings			
Average Weekly Hours			
Average Hourly Earnings			

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

* Figures will appear in the December issue of "Employment Review" due to Annual Benchmark Revisions.

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthampton, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbraham, Williamsourg.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

Dorothy R. Sullivan, Chief Supervisor

Requests for information or copies should be addressed to:

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DROPPED SLIGHTLY IN FEBR

The rate of unemployment in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area dropped from 6.7 percent in January to 6.5 percent in February. During this period the unemployment rate for the state remained the same at 6.4 percent while that of the nation declined a bit from 8.2 percent to 8.0 percent. All rates were reported seasonally unadjusted.

The gain of 3600 nonagricultural wage and salary jobs was largely in state and local government and the services industries. Increases in personnel can be attributed to the beginning of the second semester in both public and private schools and universities. Employment in other industries remained fairly stable with some adjusting slightly for seasonal demands.

NET HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

In the month of February, Net High Demand occupations listed with the Division of Employment Security in this labor market area included chemical operators (tend equipment or systems that process chemicals for industrial or consumer products), psychiatric aides, sales agents (financial services), manufacturing engineers, and housekeepers. During February there were some experienced applicants with these skills registered at the Placement Division of the Division of Employment Security. However, job matching in these particular occupations may be difficult at times due to specialized skill requirements or commuting or possibly wage problems.

LABOR TURNOVER BECOMING LESS OF A PROBLEM

The January survey of firms in the labor market area to determine labor turnover revealed that separations from jobs in the manufacturing sector are on the decline. The number of "quits" are lower than the "layoffs". As the area begins to feel the effects of the recession workers are less apt to leave their jobs especially with the tougher Unemployment Insurance laws instituted by the government in recent years. "Accessions" are mainly for replacement rather than expansion purposes.

MIFA CONTINUES TO HELP LOCAL FIRMS EXPAND

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) recently approved $1.2 million in tax-exempt, low interest bonds to finance the expansion of the National Fiber Insulation Co. in Belchertown. The firm will purchase an existing 11,000 square feet building and construct an additional 15,000 square feet of manufacturing space. Thirty-three new jobs will result from this expansion. MIFA also approved $275,000 in tax-exempt, low interest bonds to enable the Chemic Graphic Co. Inc. of Ludlow to construct 2500 square feet of additional manufacturing space. Several new jobs will result from the expansion. MIFA recently approved two bonds totaling $1,515,000 to finance construction of a new manufacturing facility for K & M Electronics, which produces a variety of molded electronic cables. The firm will purchase approximately 5.5 acres of land in the West Springfield Industrial Park, and construct a 34,000 square feet structure. The firm also plans to purchase manufacturing equipment. K & M Electronics expects to create between 100 and 200 jobs.

LATEST MANPOWER PUBLICATIONS

Publications are now available on employment in High Technology, Health Services, and Defense industries in Massachusetts. Copies can be obtained by writing to the Labor Market Research Department, Division of Employment Security. Address on Page 2.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
LABOR FORCE	277,400	271,600	266,100
Employment	259,400	253,400	252,700
Unemployment	18,000	18,200	13,400
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.5	6.7	5.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	955	857	979
Continued Weeks Claimed	9,068	9,869	6,863

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	19,277	10,461	2,671	5,771	11,447
New Applicants (This Month)	2,273	894	320	512	641

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	FEB 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	1,318
Openings Received	708

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	230.0	226.6	233.5
Nonmanufacturing - Total	165.6	162.6	164.6
Construction	5.6	5.9	5.2
Trans. & public utilities	9.4	9.2	9.3
Wholesale & retail trade	46.4	46.8	46.6
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.2	13.3	12.7
Services & mining	45.8	44.6	44.9
Government	45.2	42.8	45.9

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
Manufacturing - Total	64.4	64.0	68.9
Durable Goods - Total	30.2	30.1	31.3
Primary metal industries	2.3	2.2	2.4
Fabricated metal products	10.2	10.2	10.1
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.9	8.8	9.4
Spec. ind. mach.	1.7	1.7	1.9
Gen. ind. mach.	1.8	1.8	2.1
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.4	5.3	5.4
Electric equip.	3.6	3.5	3.7
Other durable goods	5.2	5.4	5.7
Nondurable Goods - Total	34.2	33.9	37.6
Textile mill products	1.8	1.8	2.0
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.8	2.7	2.8
Paper & paper products	7.7	7.6	7.7
Printing & publishing	5.6	5.6	6.1
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.6	3.5	3.7
Rubber & misc. plastics	2.9	2.8	4.3
Other Nondurable Goods	9.8	9.9	11.0

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	FEB 1981	JAN 1981	FEB 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	INA	INA	INA
Average Weekly Hours	INA	INA	INA
Average Hourly Earnings	INA	INA	INA

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthampton, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbraham, Williamsburg.

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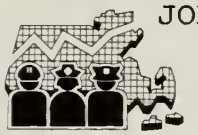
Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DECLINES

The unemployment rate in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area dropped slightly in March to 6.3 percent, still somewhat higher than the 6.2 percent reported for the state, but 1.4 percentage points below that of the nation, which registered 7.7 percent for the month. All rates were calculated unadjusted.

Nonagricultural employment rose by 800 jobs between February and March. Employment remained fairly stable in most industries during this period. The largest gain in personnel took place in wholesale and retail trade, up 400 jobs, as stores prepared to accomodate spring seasonal needs.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING SECTOR UP

Average weekly earnings in the manufacturing sector rose by 7.4 percent between March 1980 and March 1981, slightly less than for the state, which was up by 7.6 percent, yet far below the rise in the cost of living nationally over the year which reached double-digit figures. Most of the gain in wages in the labor market area and the state was in average hourly earnings rather than in average weekly hours. All areas in manufacturing showed gains in wages over the year except the rubber industry, which is still struggling to recover from its large loss in employment when the Uniroyal Tire Company closed in July of 1980.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

The Unemployment Insurance office of the D.E.S. in the labor market area reported the largest number of claimants for a quarter in four years. Not only has the number of surplus applicants applying at the Job Matching services grown but the occupational skills now include such highly skilled positions as engineers (electrical and mechanical), technicians (electronic and medical), chemists, and accountants. Manufacturers of hard goods currently considering locating a plant in the area will find a surplus of machinists (all around), machinist (set-up specialists and operators), general maintenance mechanics, electronic assemblers, small production assemblers, and other experienced bench workers. Firms wishing to establish retail outlets would have no trouble finding help ranging from office to saleswork.

PASS PROGRAM TO HELP SMALL BUSINESSES

To improve potential opportunities for government contracts and subcontracts for small businesses, the Small Business Administration (SBA), has developed its Procurement Automated Source System (PASS). Using the latest computer technology, PASS is designed to boost the number of government contracts awarded to small firms. PASS permits small firms to register their capabilities and have them matched with the needs of the procuring agencies. Small businesses which manufacture textiles, clothing, electronics, production equipment, medical, dental and ophthalmic goods and which are in "labor surplus areas" may wish to register with PASS in order to increase the probability of receiving defense procurement contracts. The only municipality within the area currently classified as a labor surplus area is Granville, but a new listing will be published as of June 1, 1981.

DOD SEEKS SMALL BUSINESS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY BIDS

The Department of Defense has announced establishment of a Defense Small Business Advanced Technology Program to capitalize on the historic creative potential of small high technology firms.

The program is designed to promote innovative solutions to scientific and technical problems facing the defense community by increasing the participation of small high technology firms in the Department's research and development initiatives. Details of this new program are available from Hal C. Fischer, Director of Small Business & Economic Utilization Policy, Room 2A-340 at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	MAR 1981	FEB 1981	MAR 1980
LABOR FORCE	275,900	277,400	267,500
Employment	258,600	259,400	254,600
Unemployment	17,300	18,000	12,900
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.3	6.5	4.8
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	629	955	732
Continued Weeks Claimed	8,314	9,068	6,863

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	19,345	10,473	2,643	5,743	11,343
New Applicants (This Month)	2,385	958	238	534	606

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	MAR 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	2,762
Openings Received	1,016

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	MAR 1981	FEB 1981	MAR 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	230.8	230.0	234.6
Nonmanufacturing - Total	166.5	165.6	165.6
Construction	5.6	5.6	5.2
Trans. & public utilities	9.4	9.4	9.4
Wholesale & retail trade	47.0	46.4	47.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.2	13.2	12.9
Services & mining	45.9	45.8	45.0
Government	45.4	45.2	45.9
Manufacturing - Total	64.3	64.4	69.0
Durable Goods - Total	30.1	30.2	31.5
Primary metal industries	2.2	2.3	2.4
Fabricated metal products	10.2	10.2	10.2
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.8	8.9	9.5
Spec. ind. mach.	1.7	1.7	1.8
Gen. ind. mach.	1.8	1.8	2.2
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.3	5.4	5.5
Electric equip.	3.6	3.6	3.7
Other durable goods	5.3	5.2	5.7
Nondurable Goods - Total	34.2	34.2	37.5
Textile mill products	1.8	1.8	2.0
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.8	2.8	2.9
Paper & paper products	7.6	7.7	7.8
Printing & puolishing	5.6	5.6	6.1
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.6	3.6	3.7
Rubber & misc. plastics	2.7	2.9	4.3
Other Nondurable Goods	10.1	9.8	10.7

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	MAR 1981	FEB 1981	MAR 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$277.71	$277.30	$258.67
Average Weekly Hours	40.9	40.9	40.8
Average Hourly Earnings	$6.79	$6.78	$6.34

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

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SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CONTINUES TO DECLINE

The rate of unemployment declined for the third consecutive month in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area, reaching 5.3 percent in April, slightly above the rate for Massachusetts which recorded 5.2 percent, but still considerably below that of the nation which recorded 7.0 percent for the same month. All unemployment rates were reported seasonally unadjusted.

The gain of 2400 nonagricultural wage and salary jobs was completely in the nonmanufacturing sector. There was little or no change in manufacturing payrolls.

With good weather in April, employment rose in construction; however, this was all on nonresidental property and on contracts started months earlier. The workforce also rose in wholesale and retail trade and the services industries as companies expanded personnel to accomodate spring seasonal needs.

NET HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

In the month of April, Net High Demand occupations listed with the Division of Employment Security in this labor market area included general duty nurses, licensed practical nurses, psychiatric aides, manufacturing engineers, and insurance sales agents. During the month, there were some experienced applicants with these skills registered at the Placement Division of D.E.S. Nevertheless, job matching in these particular occupations may be difficult at times due to specialized skill requirements, commuting, or possibly wage problems.

GROWTH IN WAGES BELOW THAT OF THE STATE

Average weekly earnings in the manufacturing sector of the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA grew by 6.8 percent from April 1980 to April 1981, while that of the state rose by 9.7 percent for the same period. In the local area, the highest gain for the year in wages took place in the fabricated metals industry, up 11.7 percent, followed by nonelectrical machinery, up by 11.3 percent. Much of the gain in wages in the durable goods sector resulted from overtime. The textile industry in the nondurable goods sector reported the largest use of overtime, 22.5 percent over the normal week.

MIFA CONTINUES TO HELP LOCAL FIRMS EXPAND

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) recently approved $750,000 in tax-exempt, low interest bonds to finance the expansion of the Pond-Edburg Company, printers, in Chicopee. The firm will purchase and equip a 55,000 square foot plant. Thirty new jobs will result. MIFA also approved a $250,000 tax-exempt, low interest bond to the Excel Dwyer Corporation, a maker of hair dryers. The firm will construct and equip a 9,600 square foot addition to its present plant in East Longmeadow. Ten new jobs will be created. MIFA also approved a similar $400,000 bond to the American Pad and Paper Company, a maker of paper and business forms for office and school use. The firm will renovate and equip a 309,000 square foot plant purchased in Holyoke. Twenty-five jobs will be created. A $400,000 bond was approved by MIFA for the National Metal Finishing Co. The firm will construct a 10,000 square foot addition to its present plant in Springfield. The addition will house new pollution control equipment needed to meet current pollution laws.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
LABOR FORCE	269,600	275,900	268,000
Employment	255,300	258,600	354,800
Unemployment	14,300	17,300	13,200
Unemployment Rate 3/	5.3	6.3	4.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	986	629	1,155
Continued Weeks Claimed	8,314	7,007	6,723

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	19,797	10,814	2,577	5,797	11,486
New Applicants (This Month)	2,990	1,401	346	610	579

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	APR 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	1,673
Openings Received	1,221

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	233.2	230.8	236.8
Nonmanufacturing - Total	168.9	166.5	168.1
Construction	6.2	5.6	6.2
Trans. & public utilities	9.4	9.4	9.4
Wholesale & retail trade	47.5	47.0	48.1
Finance. ins. & real estate	13.4	13.2	13.1
Services & mining	46.9	45.9	45.6
Government	45.5	45.4	45.7

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
Manufacturing - Total	64.3	64.3	68.7
Durable Goods - Total	30.2	30.1	31.4
Primary metal industries	2.2	2.2	2.4
Fabricated metal products	10.1	10.2	10.1
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.9	8.8	9.4
Spec. ind. mach.	1.7	1.7	1.8
Gen. ind. mach.	1.8	1.8	2.1
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.4	5.3	5.5
Electric equip.	3.6	3.6	3.7
Other durable goods	5.4	5.3	5.8
Nondurable Goods - Total	34.1	34.2	37.3
Textile mill products	1.8	1.8	2.0
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.7	2.8	2.8
Paper & paper products	7.7	7.6	7.8
Printing & publishing	5.7	5.6	6.0
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.5	3.6 R/	3.7
Rubber & misc. plastics	2.8	2.9 R/	4.2
Other Nondurable Goods	9.9	9.9 R/	10.8

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	APR 1981	MAR 1981	APR 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$277.43	$272.21 R/	$259.67
Average Weekly Hours	40.5	41.0 R/	40.7
Average Hourly Earnings	$6.85	$6.81 R/	$6.38

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS. These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthampton, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbraham, Williamsburg.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT RISES OVER MONTH

The rate of unemployment for the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area rose from 5.3 percent in April to 5.7 percent in May. The area rate has been close to that of the state since the first of the year, and the Massachusetts unemployment rate for May was 5.7 percent, also. The rate for the nation continues much higher at 7.1 percent. All rates of unemployment were reported seasonally unadjusted.

For the first time in several months all sectors manufacturing hard goods reported losses of at least 100 jobs. Gains in employment in the soft goods producing sector and in the nonmanufacturing division over the month were strictly to accomodate seasonal needs.

WAGES RISE IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Average weekly earnings in the manufacturing sector rose by 10.4 percent over the past 12 months. Wages in durable goods producing firms reported the largest gains, up 15.7 percent, and much of this improvement in earnings can be attributed to increases in actual hourly wages rather than overtime. Wages in nondurable goods firms did not do very well, going up 4.9 percent during the same period.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

During the month of May, applicant surplus occupations in Job Matching Service offices in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area included various office help (accountants, bookkeepers, secretaries, stenographers and typists), electronic technicians and assemblers, mechanical engineers, machinists (all around, set-up, and operators), construction workers, truck drivers, and material handlers.

MIFA CONTINUES TO HELP FIRMS EXPAND IN LABOR MARKET AREA

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) is an independent public agency designed to stimulate increased employment by offering important financing incentives to expanding companies in the Commonwealth. These incentives include tax-exempt financing and industrial and commercial mortgage insurance.

A $1 million tax-exempt bond was approved recently for the Artted Land Company, a manufacturer of electronic components for the radio, television and electronics industries. The firm will construct a 35,000 square foot plant, and purchase new equipment, in Springfield. The project should create 20 new jobs.

A $1.5 million tax-exempt bond was approved for Albert Steiger, Inc., a retail store. The firm will renovate and remodel its 200,000 square foot store at 1477 Main St., Springfield, The project is in a Commercial Area Revitalization District (CARD). A total of 50 new jobs should result from the renovation.

A $450,000 bond was approved for the Edaron, Inc., a die cutter, mounter, and maker of paper products. The firm will purchase land with an existing 40,000 square foot plant at One Appleton Street, Holyoke. Improvements will be made to the facility. Fifteen new jobs should be created by the project.

A $1,650,000 bond was approved for Jen-Coat, Inc. of Westfield, a maker of plastic coated paper used in food wrappers. The firm will purchase industrial and railroad equipment for its plant in Westfield. A total of 18 to 22 jobs should result.

A $620,000 bond was approved for the Laurino Packaging Corporation of West Springfield, an industrial and warehouse food packager. The project consists solely of the purchase of machinery for its plant. Eight new jobs are expected to be created by this funding.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	MAY 1981	APR 1981	MAY 1980
LABOR FORCE	269,700	269,600	272,100
Employment	254,500	255,300	255,500
Unemployment	15,200	14,300	16,600
Unemployment Rate 3/	5.7	5.3	6.1
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	663	986	1,730
Continued Weeks Claimed	5,880	7,007	6,901

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	20,521	11,294	2,508	6,215	11,517
New Applicants (This Month)	3,349	1,474	313	981	662

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	MAY 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	3,080
Openings Received	2,388

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) MAY 1981	APR 1981	MAY 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	233.8	233.2	235.5
Nonmanufacturing - Total	169.8	168.9	167.7
Construction	6.4	6.2	6.8
Trans. & public utilities	9.4	9.4	9.3
Wholesale & retail trade	47.9	47.5	48.4
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.6	13.4	13.3
Services & mining	47.7	46.9	46.2
Government	44.8	45.5	43.7

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) MAY 1981	APR 1981	MAY 1980
Manufacturing - Total	64.0	64.3	67.8
Durable Goods - Total	29.6	30.2	30.6
Primary metal industries	2.1	2.2	2.4
Fabricated metal products	10.0	10.1	9.7
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.7	8.9	9.3
Spec. ind. mach.	1.7	1.7	1.8
Gen. ind. mach.	1.8	1.8	2.1
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.2	5.4	5.4
Electric equip.	3.5	3.6	3.6
Other durable goods	5.3	5.4	5.6
Nondurable Goods - Total	34.4	34.1	37.2
Textile mill products	1.9	1.8	1.9
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.8	2.7	2.8
Paper & paper products	7.6	7.7	7.6
Printing & publishing	5.9	5.7	6.1
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.5	3.5	3.7
Rubber & misc. plastics	2.8	2.8	4.1
Other Nondurable Goods	9.9	9.9	11.0

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	MAY 1981	APR 1981	MAY 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$281.52	$277.43	$255.04
Average Weekly Hours	40.8	40.5	40.1
Average Hourly Earnings	$6.90	$6.85	$6.36

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthampton, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbraham, Williamsburg.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ON THE RISE AGAIN

The rate of unemployment rose for the second consecutive month in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area, reaching 6.2 percent in June, a bit lower than the unemployment rate for Massachusetts which recorded 6.4 percent, but considerably below that of the nation which recorded 7.7 percent for the same month. All unemployment rates were reported seasonally unadjusted.

The loss of 2,100 nonagricultural jobs in this labor market area between May and June was due primarily to the closing of public and private schools and colleges for the summer. Except for a gain of 300 jobs in the printing industry, employment in the manufacturing sector remained fairly stable over the month. Work in the construction industry increased by only 100 jobs over the month, far below normal for June.

RISE IN FACTORY WAGES BEGINNING TO OUTPACE COST OF LIVING INCREASES

erage weekly earnings in the manufacturing division ose by 10.5 percent over the year. This is happening during a period when cost of living increases have dropped to below double-digit figures for the first time in three years. Largest gains in earnings were in firms producing hard goods. These are all capital intensive companies, usually less labor intensive than firms producing soft goods.

NET HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATION

In the month of June, net high demand occupations listed with the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in this labor market area were mainly in the health service industry and included general duty nurses, licensed practical nurses, psychiatric aides, and hospital cleaners. There was also a net high demand for photograph finishers, insurance sales agents and telephone operators. There were not too many net high demand occupations listed with the Division of Employment Security Job Matching Centers in June because of uncertain conditions of the general economy and the desire of most firms to keep employment levels stable.

MIFA CONTINUES TO HELP LOCAL FIRMS EXPAND

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) is an independent public agency designed to stimulate increased employment through tax-exempt financing for expanding companies at lower rates of interest than conventional terms allow, without cost or risk to the state's credit.

Two firms in Springfield recently received MIFA approved loans, F.A. Bassette Co. to purchase printing equipment (ten jobs to be created), and the Eastern Container Corp. to expand plant and purchase equipment (three jobs will be created).

Wire producing firm in Holyoke, the United-Holyoke Corp. had bonds approved to purchase equipment (eleven new jobs will be created).

An electronics company in West Springfield, the K & M Electronics Co. had a loan approved enabling the firm to expand their facility and purchase equipment (197 new jobs will be created).

MIFA also recently approved a loan for the Northampton-Killmorgan Corp., Electro Optical Division, to expand its plant in Northampton and purchase equipment (119 jobs should result from this expansion).

NEW PUBLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE AT D.E.S.

The following publications are now available at the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security Labor Market Research Department.

1. High Demand Occupations in Massachusetts 1981
2. Labor Market Information: What's Available for Massachusetts
3. Annual Planning Information Fiscal Year 1981 Part I Boston SMSA

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	JUNE '81	MAY '81	JUNE '80
LABOR FORCE	272,100	269,700	269,400
Employment	255,300	254,500	252,400
Unemployment	16,800	15,200	17,000
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.2	5.7	6.3
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	801	663	819
Continued Weeks Claimed	5,563	5,880	6,883

1/ By Place of Residence 2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	20,951	11,677	2,541	6,292	11,646
New Applicants (This Month)	3,141	1,415	337	620	676

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	JUNE '81
Unfilled Openings 2/	2,977
Openings Received	690

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	JUNE '81	MAY '81	JUNE '80
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	231.7	233.8	234.2
Nonmanufacturing - Total	167.2	169.8	166.4
Construction	6.5	6.4	7.4
Trans. & public utilities	9.6	9.4	9.3
Wholesale & retail trade	47.8	47.9	48.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.8	13.6	13.5
Services & mining	47.0	47.7	44.7
Government	42.5	44.8	43.3
Manufacturing - Total	64.5	64.0	67.8
Durable Goods - Total	29.5	29.6	30.2
Primary metal industries	2.1	2.1	2.3
Fabricated metal products	10.0	10.0	9.9
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.7	8.7	9.4
Spec. ind. mach.	1.6	1.7	1.8
Gen. ind. mach.	1.8	1.8	2.1
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.3	5.2	5.5
Electric equip.	3.5	3.5	3.6
Other durable goods	5.2	5.3	5.0
Nondurable Goods - Total	35.0	34.4	37.6
Textile mill products	1.9	1.9	1.9
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.8	2.8	2.9
Paper & paper products	7.6	7.6	7.7
Printing & publishing	6.2	5.9	6.2
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.5	3.5	3.7
Rubber & misc. plastics	2.8	2.8	4.0
Other nondurable goods	10.2	9.9	11.2

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	JUNE '81	MAY '81	JUNE '80
Average Weekly Earnings	$286.90	$281.52	$259.43
Average Weekly Hours	41.4	40.8	40.6
Average Hourly Earnings	$6.93	$6.90	$6.39

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

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SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT UP IN JULY

Between June and July, the rate of unemployment in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area jumped from 6.2 percent to 6.7 percent, an unusually high increase for July. The rise was due mainly to vacation shutdowns for many firms, during which workers not eligible for vacation pay were considered unemployed. The state unemployment rate rose from 6.4 percent to 6.7 percent over the month. An unemployment rate of 7.3 percent was reported for the nation in July. All rates were recorded seasonally unadjusted. Over the past year, except for December, the rate of unemployment for the country has been 7.0 percent or higher. This accounts for the rise in unemployment in this labor market area over the past seven months. The area is dependent on the nation for a large share of its business. In fact, this labor market area looks to the rest of the nation for as much as 90 percent of its manufacturing business.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

During the month of July, applicant surplus occupations in the Job Matching Services offices in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area included various office help (accountants, business programmers, bookkeepers, secretaries, stenographers and typists), several electrical and electronic technicians and assemblers, mechanical engineers, machinist (all around, set-up, repairs and operators) and numerous construction workers (plumbers, painters, carpenters, roofers, and heavy equipment operators).

MIFA CONTINUES TO HELP FIRMS EXPAND IN LABOR MARKET AREA

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) is an independent public agency designed to stimulate increased employment by offering important financing incentives to expanding firms in the Commonwealth. These incentives include tax-exempt financing and industrial and commercial mortgage insurance.

A $1 million bond was recently approved for PMA, Inc. of West Springfield, a maker of precision machined components and fabrications. The firm will purchase equipment to expand its operation. Five new employees will be hired.

A $240,000 bond was approved for the Western Mass. Tobacco and Candy Company, Inc. also in West Springfield. The firm will construct an 8,000 square foot addition to its plant and purchase equipment. Six new employees will be hired as a result of the expansion.

A $3.8 million bond was approved for the National Can Corporation of Northampton, a manufacturer of plastic and metal containers for soft drinks, food, cosmetics, and pharmaceutical industries. The firm will construct a 103,000 square foot plant on 21 acres of land purchased in the Northampton Industrial Park. A total of 56 new jobs would result from the growth.

A $1.5 million bond was approved for Laminated Papers, Inc., of Holyoke, a maker of laminated paper. The firm will construct an 18,000 square foot plant. Equipment will also be purchased. Fourteen jobs are expected to result from this growth.

MERGING OF D.E.S. OFFICES

Due to federal budget cuts expected in October several Massachusetts Division of Employment Security (D.E.S.) offices will merge, thereby consolidating operations, but will still continue to give the public necessary services such as processing of unemployment insurance claims, counselling, and job matching.

NEW PUBLICATION NOW AVAILABLE AT D.E.S.

Part I of the Annual Planning Information Report (APIR) for Massachusetts and each of the LMA's and SMSA's in the Commonwealth is now available at the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security Labor Area Research Department.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
LABOR FORCE	277,300	272,100	271,000
Employment	258,700	255,300	254,900
Unemployment	18,600	16,800	16,100
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.7	6.2	5.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	985	801	864
Continued Weeks Claimed	8,095	5,563	7,916

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	20,819	11,802	2,569	5,861	11,313
New Applicants (This Month)	3,984	1,928	398	629	756

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	JULY '81
Unfilled Openings 2/	2,629
Openings Received	1,431

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	228.0	231.7	229.1
Nonmanufacturing - Total	164.7	167.2	163.7
Construction	6.3	6.5	7.1
Trans. & public utilities	9.0	9.6	8.9
Wholesale & retail trade	46.5	47.8	46.7
Finance, ins. & real estate	14.0	13.8	13.7
Services & mining	46.8	47.0	44.4
Government	42.1	42.5	42.9

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
Manufacturing - Total	63.3	64.5	65.4
Durable Goods - Total	28.6	29.5	29.3
Primary metal industries	1.9	2.1	2.1
Fabricated metal products	9.7	10.0	9.7
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.5	8.7	9.2
Spec. ind. mach.	1.6	1.6	1.8
Gen. ind. mach.	1.7	1.8	1.9
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.2	5.3	5.5
Electric equip.	3.4	3.5	3.5
Other durable goods	5.1	5.2	4.8
Nondurable Goods - Total	34.7	35.0	36.1
Textile mill products	1.8	1.9	1.6
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.8	2.8	2.7
Paper & paper products	7.3	7.6	7.4
Printing & publisning	6.1	6.2	6.1
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.5	3.5	3.7
Rubber & misc. plastics	2.9	2.8	3.7
Other Nondurable Goods	10.3	10.2	10.9

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	JULY '81	JUNE '81	JULY '80
Average Weekly Earnings	$280.55	$286.90	$255.17
Average Weekly Hours	40.6	41.4	39.5
Average Hourly Earnings	$6.91	$6.93	$6.46

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthampton, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbraham, Williamsburg.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

Eugene J. Doody, Director

Helen B. Munzer, Director, Job Market Research

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

Between August and September, the rate of unemployment in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area dropped considerably from 7.0 percent to 6.2 percent. Improvement in employment was due largely to the increase in work staffs as both private and public schools and colleges began the fall sesions. Payrolls in most of the other industrial sectors remained fairly stable with some reporting slight increases. The unemployment rate for Massachusetts also declined over-the-month, dropping from 7.2 percent to 6.5 percent. During the same period the nation's unemployment rate rose slightly from 7.2 percent to 7.3 percent. All rates were recorded unadjusted.

Wages Rise in Manufacturing Industries

Average weekly earnings in the manufacturing sector rose by 9.2 percent over the 12 month period ending August 31. Largest gains took place in firms producing durable goods, where average weekly wages rose by 11.3 percent. Wage increases were caused by a combination of actual pay raises and increased overtime. Largest overtime was reported in textile mills where average weekly hours reached 40.6 hours a week.

Applicant Surplus Occupations

During the month of September, applicant surplus occupations in the Job Matching Services offices in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area included machinists (all around, set-up, repairs, and operators), tool and die makers, electronic mechanics, assemblers and inspectors, various office help (accountants, business programmers, secretaries, stenographers and typists), licensed practical nurses, nurse aides, and psychiatric aides.

MIFA Continues to Help Firms Expand in Labor Market Area

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) is an independent public agency designed to stimulate increased employment by offering important financing incentives to expanding firms in the Commonwealth. These incentives include tax-exempt financing and industrial and commercial mortgage insurance.

In this labor market area, not only has MIFA helped companies expand, thereby creating jobs, but it has proven very helpful in creating work for the terribly distressed construction industry.

A $1,320,000 bond was approved for the Olympia Limited Partnership, a West Springfield developer. The firm will purchase and renovate an 82,100 square foot building for use as a warehouse and industrial space at 125 Capital Drive. The project will create 50 to 100 jobs.

A $350,000 bond was approved for Roper & Broderick, Inc., a manufacturer of a patented line of plastic processing machinery. The firm will purchase equipment to be installed at its 15,000 square foot facility in the Westover Air Park. The project will create 40 new jobs.

A $450,000 bond was approved for the Ciocca Construction Corp., of Springfield, a company engaged in the business of public and private construction. The firm will purchase seven acres of land with an existing 80,000 square foot manufacturing plant consisting of a two story 31,042 square foot manufacturing building and a four story 48,958 square foot mill building at 267 Walnut Street. The project will create several new jobs.

New Publications Now Available At DES

The Annual Planning Information Report (APIR) for the Boston SMSA, Brockton SMSA, Fall River LMA, and the New Bedford LMA in the Commonwealth are now available at the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security Labor Area Research Department.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR Sept. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sept. 1980
LABOR FORCE	283,900	281,200	270,900
Employment	266,400	261,400	254,900
Unemployment	17,500	19,800	16,000
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.2	7.0	5.9
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	731	608	609
Continued Weeks Claimed	6,420	7,338	6,404

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	21,933	12,648	2,614	6,142	11,566
New Applicants (This Month)	4,352	2,198	429	812	677

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Sept. 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	1,160
Openings Received	1,752

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) Sep. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sep. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	234.9	229.8	233.8
Nonmanufacturing - Total	169.6	165.4	166.7
Construction	6.3	6.5	7.2
Trans. & public utilities	9.5	9.1	9.5
Wholesale & retail trade	48.0	46.8	47.8
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.8	14.0	13.5
Services & mining	48.2	46.9	46.7
Government	43.8	42.1	43.0
Manufacturing - Total	65.3	64.4	66.1
Durable Goods - Total	29.8	29.3	30.3
Primary metal industries	2.2	2.2	2.2
Fabricated metal products	10.3	10.0	10.1
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.5	8.4	8.9
Spec. ind. mach.	1.6	1.6	1.8
Gen. ind. mach.	1.7	1.8	1.8
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.2	5.0	5.3
Electric equip.	3.5	3.4	3.5
[redacted]			
Other durable goods	5.3	5.3	5.6
Nondurable Goods - Total	35.5	35.1	35.8
Textile mill products	2.0	2.0	1.9
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.8	2.8	2.8
Paper & paper products	7.7	7.5	7.7
Printing & publishing	6.2	6.2	5.8
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.5	3.5	3.6
Rubber & misc. plastics	3.0	3.1	2.9
Other Nondurable Goods	10.3	10.0	11.1

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Sep. 1981	Aug. 1981	Sep. 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$289.81	$286.06	$264.71
Average Weekly Hours	41.0	41.1	40.6
Average Hourly Earnings	$7.07	$6.96	$6.54

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

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SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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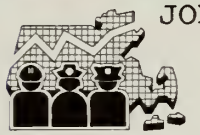
Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE REACHES FIVE YEAR HIGH

The unemployment rate in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area climbed to 7.0 percent in October 1981 from 6.3 percent in September. This was the highest rate of unemployment for the month since 1976 when the Massachusetts economy and that of the local area were just beginning to recover from the 1975 recession. The state also reported a rate of 7.0 percent. The nation's rate of unemployment was 7.5 percent for the month. All rates were recorded unadjusted. Nonagricultural employment dropped by only 400 over the month. This was determined by "place of work", whereas, the number of unemployed rose by a significant 2,500, which was estimated by "place of residence".

MANUFACTURING WAGES UP OVER THE YEAR

Earnings in manufacturing industries rose by 9.5 percent between September 1980 and September 1981. Biggest gains occurred in the durable goods producing sector, up by 10.5 percent, as compared to 8.2 percent in nondurables. Increases in wages in durable goods were mainly in regular straight time wages, while those in nondurable goods were largely the result of over time.

MIFA CONTINUES TO HELP LOCAL FIRMS EXPAND

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) is an independent public agency designed to create or increase employment through tax-exempt financing for expanding companies at lower rates of interest than conventional terms allow, without cost or risk to the state's credit. In many cases, it is the best way smaller companies can go in a capital-short, high interest economy. Furthermore, much of the expansion is in facilities, new or old, and as a result MIFA has been a shot in the arm to the ailing construction industry in this area during the past three years.

A $5,300,000 bond was approved for Hammermill Paper Co., a Pennsylvania corporation which manufactures fine printing and writing papers, distributes paper and related products, produces specialized industrial paper, and specializes in paper conversion, timber lands management and wood production. The company will purchase 30 acres of land on Turnpike Industrial Road in Westfield and construct a 50,000 square foot facility in addition to purchasing equipment. The company predicts that 142 new jobs will be created as a result of the project.

A $350,000 bond was approved for Kittridge Equipment Co., Inc., of Springfield, a warehouse and distribution company of food service equipment for restaurants. The company is purchasing approximately one acre of land and an existing 40,000 square foot building and making extensive renovations. Ten new jobs are expected to be created as a result of the project.

A $275,000 bond was approved for the Cooley, Shran, Alpert and Labovitz law firm in Springfield. The firm will purchase equipment and complete extensive renovations to the fifth floor of a building in Springfield's Commercial Area Revitalization District. The project will result in 15 new jobs.

PRESS RELEASES

We would appreciate being added to companies' mailing lists for press releases that would have any bearing on the number of Massachusetts workers; for example, mass recruitment, plan expansion, plant consolidation, and layoffs. Address such releases to the address on the reverse side of this profile.

NEW HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

In the month of October, net high demand occupations listed with the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security (DES) in this labor market area were mainly in the health service industry and included general duty nurses, licensed practical nurses, psychiatric aides, and hospital cleaners.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Oct. 1981	Sep. 1981	Oct. 1980
LABOR FORCE	285,100	277,200	286,000
Employment	266,100	259,800	266,100
Unemployment	19,000	17,400	19,900
Unemployment Rate 3/	7.0	6.3	7.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	864	731	665
Continued Weeks Claimed	6,258	6,420	6,610

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants					
New Applicants ..... (This Month)	Information Not Available				

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Oct. 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	
Openings Received	INA

1/ Available During the Month

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Oct. 1981	Sep. 1981	Oct. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	234.5	234.9	234.9
Nonmanufacturing - Total	169.3	169.6	169.0
Construction	6.2	6.3	7.0
Trans. & public utilities	9.6	9.5	9.6
Wholesale & retail trade	47.6	48.0	47.3
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.6	13.8	13.2
Services & mining	47.6	48.2	45.6
Government	44.7	43.8	46.3

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Oct. 1981	Sep. 1981	Oct. 1980
Manufacturing - Total	65.2	65.3	65.9
Durable Goods - Total	29.7	29.8	30.4
Primary metal industries	2.2	2.2	2.2
Fabricated metal products	10.3	10.3	10.1
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.6	8.5	9.0
Spec. ind. mach.	1.6	1.6	1.8
Gen. ind. mach.	1.8	1.7	1.8
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.2	5.2	5.4
Electric equip.	3.4	3.5	3.6
[illegible]			
Other durable goods	5.2	5.3	5.5
Nondurable Goods - Total	35.5	35.5	35.5
Textile mill products	2.0	2.0	1.8
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.9	2.8	2.8
Paper & paper products	7.6	7.7	7.6
Printing & publishing	6.1	6.2	5.7
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.5	3.5	3.6
Rubber & misc. plastics	2.9	3.0	2.9
Other Nondurable Goods	10.5	10.3	11.1

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS			
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	Information Not Available		

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

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SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DROPS OVER THE MONTH IN LOCAL AREA

The unemployment rate in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area continues to follow a trend very much like that of the state as a whole. In both the state and the labor market area, the rate of unemployment dropped from 7.0 percent in October to 6.4 percent in November 1981. This is considerably better than the nation where the rate of unemployment rose from 7.5 percent to 7.9 percent over the month. All rates were recorded unadjusted for seasonality.

Nonagricultural employment increased by 600 jobs. Most of the gain in employment was in wholesale and retail trade, services, and state and local government in which employment rose to accommodate seasonal needs.

APPLICANT SURPLUS OCCUPATIONS

During the month of November, applicant surplus occupations in the Job Matching Services offices in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market area included various machine operators, secretaries, numerous construction workers (plumbers, painters, carpenters, roofers, and heavy equipment operators), housekeepers, chamber maids, waitresses and bartenders.

RISE IN FACTORY WAGES OUTPACING COST OF LIVING INCREASES

Average weekly earnings in the manufacturing business rose by 10.6 percent over the year from October 1980 to October 1981. This is happening in a period when cost of living increases have dropped slightly below double-digit figures. Largest gains in wages were reported in firms producing hard goods. These are all capital intensive companies, usually less labor intensive than firms producing soft goods. Firms producing soft goods reported an increase of 10.2 percent over the year, but much of this gain was in overtime to take care of increased seasonal requirements.

MIFA HELPS SWISS FIRM LOCATE IN SOUTH HADLEY

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) is an independent public agency designed to create or increase employment through tax-exempt financing for expanding companies at lower rates of interest than conventional terms allow, without cost or risk to the state's credit. In many cases, it is the best way smaller firms can make out in a capital-short, high interest economy. MIFA has also been a blessing to the ailing construction industry in the area over the past years.

MIFA has recently approved a $300,000 bond to the Maillefer Company, which will construct a 20,000 square foot addition to its plant in South Hadley and purchase equipment. The company projects that 12 to 15 new jobs will be created with its expansion. Headquartered in Switzerland, Maillefer manufactures plastic extrusion equipment.

NEW PUBLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE AT DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

The following publications are now available at the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security Labor Market Research Department.

1. Labor Market Information for Affirmative Action Program 1981 Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA. 2. Annual Planning Information Report (APIR) Fiscal Year 1982 for the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA and the Worcester LMA.

The Occupational/Industry Research Department has now made available the following publications:

1. An Occupational Profile of Hospital Employment in Massachusetts 1980. 2. Job Openings Survey in Massachusetts 1980

Mail requests for copies to the address on the reverse side of this profile.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
LABOR FORCE	286,700	286,000	277,900
Employment	268,400	266,100	265,100
Unemployment	18,300	19,900	12,800
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.4	7.0	4.6
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	1,035	864	1,019
Continued Weeks Claimed	7,102	6,258	6,813

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	20,317	11,531	2,755	5,658	11,286
New Applicants (This Month)	2,622	1,170	356	522	529

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Nov. 1981
Unfilled Openings 2/	1,667
Openings Received	879

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	234.7	234.1[R]	236.3
Nonmanufacturing - Total	170.8	169.3	170.8
Construction	6.2	6.2	6.9
Trans. & public utilities	9.5	9.6	9.6
Wholesale & retail trade	48.3	47.6	48.1
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.5	13.6	13.2
Services & mining	47.8	47.6	45.7
Government	45.5	44.7	47.3

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
Manufacturing - Total	63.9	64.8	65.5
Durable Goods - Total	29.5	29.7	30.4
Primary metal industries	2.1	2.2	2.3
Fabricated metal products	10.2	10.3	10.2
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.6	8.6	8.9
Spec. ind. mach.	1.6	1.6	1.8
Gen. ind. mach.	1.8	1.8	1.8
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.2	5.2	5.3
Electric equip.	3.4	3.4	3.6
[redacted]			
Other durable goods	5.2	5.2	5.4
Nondurable Goods - Total	34.4	35.1[R]	35.1
Textile mill products	1.9	2.0	1.8
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.8	2.9	2.7
Paper & paper products	7.6	7.6	7.7
Printing & publishing	6.0	6.1	5.7
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.3	3.5	3.6
Rubber & misc. plastics	3.0	2.9	2.9
Other Nondurable Goods	9.8	10.1[R]	10.7

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Nov. 1981	Oct. 1981	Nov. 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$294.65	$290.58	$268.11
Average Weekly Hours	41.5	41.1	40.5
Average Hourly Earnings	$7.10	$7.07	$6.62

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthampton, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbraham, Williamsburg.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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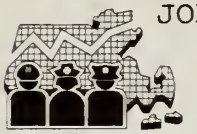
Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



DECEMBER UNEMPLOYMENT RATE HIGHEST FOR THE YEAR IN AREA

The rate of unemployment in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA jumped from 6.4 percent in November to 7.6 percent in December 1981, surpassing that of the state which reported an unemployment rate of 6.9 percent in December. The rate of unemployment for the nation reached 8.3 percent in December, the highest for year. All rates were recorded seasonally unadjusted.

RISE IN FACTORY WAGES CONTINUES TO OUTPACE COST OF LIVING

Average weekly earnings in the manufacturing business sector rose by 9.9 percent over the year, from November 1980 to November 1981. This is still above the 8.9 percent average rate of inflation reported by the Administration for 1981. A considerable amount of the gain was attributed to overtime. In the nondurable goods sector, overtime was used to take care of increased seasonal requirements during November. This was especially noticeable in firms producing textiles, paper, chemicals, and rubber and plastics products. However, overtime in the durable goods sector could have been used in lieu of new hiring, a practice available to manufacturers especially during a recessionary period should they wish to avoid the added costs of new hiring, especially fringe benefits.

NET HIGH DEMAND OCCUPATIONS

In the month of November 1981, net high demand occupations listed with the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in this labor market area were general duty nurses, licensed practical nurses, insurance sales agents, switchboard operators, and counter attendants for restaurants and hotels. There were not too many net high demand occupations listed with the Division of Employment Security Job Matching Centers in November because of uncertain conditions of the general economy and the desire of most firms to keep employment levels stable.

MIFA CONTINUES TO HELP LOCAL FIRMS EXPAND

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) is an independent public agency designed to create or increase employment through tax-exempt financing for expanding companies at lower rates of interest than conventional terms allow, without cost or risk to the state's credit. In many cases, it is the best way smaller firms can make out in a capital-short, high interest economy. MIFA has also been a blessing to the ailing construction industry in the area over the past few years. MIFA has recently approved a $10 million bond to the FNBC Realty Corp., for use by the Old Colony Bank of Hampden County, to build a 7-story building in Springfield. The project will create 500 new jobs.

The December issue of the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA Profile is the last regular issue. Due to severe cuts in federal funds, the Division of Employment Security regretfully announces that it must terminate the following publications: Massachusetts Cities and Towns, Massachusetts Trends, Massachusetts Labor Turnover in Manufacturing, and Massachusetts Profiles for each of the 10 major labor market areas in the state.

The statistical data contained in these publications will be available in the Job Market Research library on the second floor of the Hurley Building. Some of the statistical information contained in these publications will be available during 1982 in a revised Massachusetts Employment Review publication. If you would like to be put on this mailing list, please write to the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security, Job Market Research Publications, Charles F. Hurley Building, Government Center, Boston, MA 02114. Be sure to include your complete address and zip code. The information you provide us will be fed into our new computer program which will enable us to deliver information more efficiently. If you know of others who would like to be on our new mailing list, please have them send us their addresses. If any additional funding becomes available during the year, we will add to our list of publications on a selective basis. Your comments on the value of and uses for the publications you have been receiving would help us to focus our decisions.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Dec. 1981	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980
LABOR FORCE	287,100	286,700	278,800
Employment	265,400	268,400	265,700
Unemployment	21,700	18,300	13,100
Unemployment Rate 3/	7.6	6.4	4.7
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	2,356	1,035	1,656
Continued Weeks Claimed	8,948	7,102	8,486

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants					
New Applicants (This Month)	I N A				

JOB OPENINGS 1/	
Unfilled Openings 2/	
Openings Received	I N A

1/ Available During the Month

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Dec. 1981	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	235.6	234.7	235.5
Nonmanufacturing - Total	173.0	170.8	170.5
Construction	5.9	6.2	6.6
Trans. & public utilities	9.5	9.5	9.5
Wholesale & retail trade	50.7	48.3	49.0
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.6	13.5	13.3
Services & mining	48.0	47.8	45.8
Government	45.3	45.5	46.3

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Dec. 1981	Nov. 1981	Dec.1980
Manufacturing - Total	62.6	63.9	65.0
Durable Goods - Total	29.1	29.5	30.3
Primary metal industries	2.1	2.1	2.2
Fabricated metal products	10.0	10.2	10.2
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.5	8.6	8.9
Spec. ind. mach.	1.6	1.6	1.7
Gen. ind. mach.	1.8	1.8	1.8
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.1	5.2	5.4
Electric equip.	3.3	3.4	3.6
Transportation equip.(Out)	--	--	--
Other durable goods	5.2	5.2	5.4
Nondurable Goods - Total	33.5	34.4	34.7
Textile mill products	1.9	1.9	1.8
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.8	2.8	2.8
Paper & paper products	7.6	7.6	7.7
Printing & publishing	5.7	6.0	5.8
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.3	3.3	3.5
Rubber & misc. plastics	3.0	3.0	2.9
Other Nondurable Goods	9.2	9.8	10.2

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Dec. 1981	Nov. 1981	Dec. 1980
Average Weekly Earnings	$296.61	$294.65	$276.81
Average Weekly Hours	41.6	41.5	41.5
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 7.13	$ 7.10	$ 6.67

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

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GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthampton, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbraham, Williamsburg.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE RISES

The number of unemployed residents of the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area (LMA) jumped sharply by nearly 3,000 between April and May even though the number of nonagricultural jobs rose by 1,000. This no doubt is partly due to the first influx of students and graduates into the labor markets. However, it also reflects the scarcity of jobs, both year around and seasonal. This April-to-May increase in unemployed occurred almost statewide.

A more dramatic picture of the recessionary forces at work in the area is drawn by the over-the-year comparison which indicates a rise of unemployment from 15,200 or 5.0 percent of a smaller labor force (272,100) to 25,200 or 8.6 percent of the current labor force of 293,600. Not since 1976, when the rate of unemployment was 9.2 percent, had the rate been so high in May. The unemployment rate (unadjusted) in May for the state was the same as that for the Springfield area, at 8.6 percent, while the national rate soared to 9.1 percent.

CLAIMS ACTIVITY

Both continued and initial claims for unemployment benefits filed at the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Employment offices dropped over the month in May from 9,789 to 8,905 and 1,046 to 802, respectively. A year ago in May, 6,317 continued and 663 initial claims were filed, Our records also show that 315 persons who did file in May were disqualified from collecting benefits. Our estimate of the number of claimants who exhausted their benefits and are still unemployed approximates 1,700.

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

The count of nonagricultural jobs in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA rose moderately by 1,000 between April and May despite the loss of some 300 factory slots, widely scattered among many industries. The counterbalancing growth in nonfactory employment was caused by expected seasonal expansions in services, trade and construction.

An over-the-year comparison of employment levels shows a loss of some 4,600 jobs. This loss was mostly due to a 6,000 worker drop in manufacturing payrolls. Half of these losses were in the durable goods sector, heavily concentrated in primary and fabricated metal products. The other half of the shrinkage in factory payrolls, adding up to 2,000 jobs, was due to small, widespread losses in all softgoods industries. In the nonfactory division, government payrolls, as would be expected because of local and national policies, showed the greatest decline over the year (-2,700). The only increase in employment in this period was in the service industries (+1,900) and trade (+700).

HOURS AND EARNINGS

Earnings of production workers in the area's factories rose by $3.44 over the month, from $298.15 in April to $301.59 in May. The rise resulted from slight increases in both hours worked and hourly earnings. Jobs in the nondurable goods sector of manufacturing, generally lower paying than those in the durable goods sector, led the way with a $4.96 weekly increase in pay. The cause of this boost in nondurable goods wages was primarily the healthy rise of $14.14 in the earning of workers in chemical plants. Since the average hourly earnings of production workers in the chemicals industry dropped a few pennies per hour, the increase in weekly wages was caused entirely by overtime pay, as the average weekly hours worked increased by nearly 2 hours, from 42.0 to 43.9.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION DATA

Due to cutbacks in Federal funds, the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security will no longer update and publish the labor force and demographic data required for Affirmative Action recruitment. The latest available information is for 1981.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	May 1982	April 1982	May 1981
LABOR FORCE	293,600	288,300	272,100
Employment	268,400	265,700	256,900
Unemployment	25,200	22,600	15,200
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.6	7.8	5.6
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	802	1,046	663
Continued Weeks Claimed	8,333	9,108	5,880

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	21,278	11,620	2,850	5,581	10,770
New Applicants (This Month)	3,899	1,648	534	725	425

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	April 1982
Unfilled Openings 2/	1906
Openings Received	1125

1 At End of Period 2 [illegible]

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	May 1982	April 1982	May 1981
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	234.0	232.3	238.6
Nonmanufacturing - Total	174.2	172.2	174.8
Construction	6.1	5.7	6.4
Trans. & public utilities	9.2	9.2	9.5
Wholesale & retail trade	49.0	48.5	48.3
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.5	13.3	13.4
Services & mining	50.8	49.8	48.9
Government	45.6	45.7	48.3

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	May 1982	April 1982	May 1981
Average Weekly Earnings	$301.59	$298.15	$281.52
Average Weekly Hours	40.7	40.4	40.8
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 7.41	$ 7.38	$ 6.90

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	May 1982	April 1982	May 1981
Manufacturing - Total	59.8	60.1	63.8
Durable Goods - Total	26.7	27.0	28.7
Primary metal industries	1.8	1.9	2.3
Fabricated metal products	8.6	8.7	9.3
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.4	8.5	8.6
Spec. ind. mach.	1.6	1.6	1.8
Gen. ind. mach.	1.5	1.6	1.7
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.3	5.3	5.1
Electric equip.	3.0	3.0	3.1
Transportation equip.	--	--	--
Other durable goods	4.9	4.9	5.4
Nondurable Goods - Total	33.1	33.1	35.1
Textile mill products	1.9	1.8	2.0
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.7	2.6	2.7
Paper & paper products	7.2	7.3	7.4
Printing & publishing	5.8	5.7	6.2
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.4	3.4	3.6
Misc. Manufacturing	5.5	5.6	6.4
Other Nondurable Goods	6.6	6.7	6.9

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE STILL RISING

The unemployment rate for July, 1982 in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area was 9.4 percent. A month earlier it was 9.1 percent, but a year earlier on July, 1981 it was only 6.5 percent. The metropolitan area in the state with the lowest rate in July was Boston at 8.1 percent, the highest was New Bedford at 15.5 percent. The unadjusted rate for the state in July was 9.6 percent, in the nation, 9.8 percent.

Claims for unemployment benefits filed at local offices in the area rose from 8,616 in June to 9,492 in July. Initial claims rose from 898 to 1,183 in that time period. Much of the rise in the number of claims filed in July are due to the vacation shutdown of factories.

FEWER MANUFACTURING JOBS

Manufacturing jobs in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA continued to decline. The 58,000 factory jobs in July represented a loss of 2,000 jobs over the month.

A 1,200-worker loss occurred in the nondurable goods sector of manufacturing, largely as a result of layoffs in the paper and chemical industries. An 800-worker loss was recorded in the durable goods sector over the month. A large proportion of these workers were last employed in plants producing primary and fabricated metals.

Over the year since July, 1981, losses in factory jobs paralleled those that occurred over the month. Durable goods producing firms have some 2,000 fewer worker largely because of displacments in primary and fabricated metals. The nondurable goods sector of manufacturing lost 3,100 jobs over the year, 600 in chemicals alone.

By contrast, the nonmanufacturing sector employment levels remained stable over the year. The addition of 1,600 jobs in trade and 1,300 jobs in the service industries since July 1981 offset the loss of 2,700 government jobs, mostly on the state and local levels.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Job Market Research Services of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security is pleased to announce the release of six new publications. Executive summaries or complete reports are available on request. For budgetary reasons, we suggest reading the one-page summaries before requesting complete reports.

Three new reports identify industry groups which are expected to show higher than average employment growth during the decade of the 1980's. These reports are Finance, Insurance and Real Estate from 1971-1980; Business Support Services from 1975-1980; Biomedical-Biotechnical Employment from 1977-1980.

The fourth report, an updated High Technology in Massachusetts and Selected States 1975-1981, evaluates Massachusetts' high technology in relation to twenty-four states which are site-location alternatives to the Commonwealth. The two remaining reports examine the effects of federal policy on Massachusetts' employment. The Trade Adjustment Act Impact on the Massachusetts Economy studies the 5-year period, January 1975 through November 1981. Defense Spending and Massachusetts Employment 1972-1980 examines military prime contracts awards to Massachusetts and defense-oreinted employment during this nine-year period.

For copies of any or all of these executive summaries or reports, please specify the report when you write to:

Division of Employment Security
Job Market Research Publications
Charles F. Hurley Building
Government Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	July 1982	June 1982	July 1981
LABOR FORCE	299,700	292,000	282,300
Employment	271,400	265,400	263,800
Unemployment	28,300	26,600	18,500
Unemployment Rate 3/	9.4	9.1	6.5
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	1,183	898	985
Continued Weeks Claimed	9,492	8,616	8,567

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	13,517	5,409	2,538	2,680	1,826
New Applicants (This Month)	3,303	1,585	290	611	472

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	July 1982
Unfilled Openings 2/	2,626
Openings Received	604

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

next Dec

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	July 1982	June 1982	July 1981
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	225.8	228.6	230.7
Nonmanufacturing - Total	167.8	168.6	167.6
Construction	6.3	6.2	6.2
Trans. & public utilities	8.7	9.3	8.7
Wholesale & retail trade	48.8	48.6	47.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.8	13.7	13.9
Services & mining	49.1	49.0	47.8
Government	41.1	41.8	43.8

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	July 1982	June 1982	July 1981
Manufacturing - Total	58.0	60.0	63.1
Durable Goods - Total	25.7	26.5	27.7
Primary metal industries	1.5	1.8	2.0
Fabricated metal products	8.3	8.6	9.0
Machinery (exc. electrical)	8.0	8.2	8.3
Spec. ind. mach.	1.5	1.6	1.6
Gen. ind. mach.	1.4	1.4	1.5
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	5.1	5.2	5.2
Electric equip.	3.0	3.1	3.1
Transportation equip.	--	--	--
Other durable goods	4.9	4.8	5.3
Nondurable Goods - Total	32.3	33.5	35.4
Textile mill products	1.6	1.9	1.8
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.4	2.6	2.6
Paper & paper products	6.9	7.3	7.1
Printing & publishing	6.0	5.9	6.4
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.0	3.4	3.6
Rubber & misc. plastics	--	--	--
Other Nondurable Goods	5.6	5.7	6.8

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	July 1982	June 1982	July 1981
Average Weekly Earnings	$305.56	$303.96	$280.55
Average Weekly Hours	40.1	40.8	40.6
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 7.62	$ 7.45	$ 6.91

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

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GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthampton, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbraham, Williamsburg.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Massachusetts Division of Employment Security

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF THE LABOR MARKET AREA

Total nonagricultural employment in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area grew steadily since 1970 except during the 1975 and current recessions. However, by 1976, recovery from the earlier downturn was well on its way. Employment in the current recession peaked in 1980 and in November 1982 is still headed downward. Factory employment in the area actually peaked in 1979 but total nonfarm employment has been sustained by increases in the nonmanufacturing division, principally in the services and in the finance, insurance and real estate sectors. In fact, in February, 1982 the service industry surpassed the wholesale and retail trade industry as the largest employer in the Springfield area and now employs 21 percent of all nonfarm workers.

In contrast, manufacturing employment, which was 33.3 percent of all nonagricultural employment in 1970, has shrunk to 26.9 percent in 1981. This compares favorably with the state's share of factory employment at 25.1 percent.

UNEMPLOYMENT TRENDS

In 1981, the unemployment rate of the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA was 6.3 percent compared to the 6.4 percent for the state. In November, 1982 the 6.0 rate in the area was lower than the 6.5 percent in the Commonwealth. The projected area rate for Fiscal Year 1983 is 6.7 percent.

OCCUPATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

In March 1982, there were 11 applicants for every unfilled job opening registered at Job Matching Service Centers in the S-C-H LMA compared to a statewide average of 10 to 1. In the Springfield area as a whole there were over 30 machine trade, structural work and benchwork applicants for each opening. In the local offices of Springfield and Northampton more than half the jobseekers were white collar workers as was true for Massachusetts, while Holyoke had less than 49 percent white collar jobseekers. All offices in the LMA had a greater percentage of machine trade jobseekers than the statewide share.

The Annual Planning Information Report, Fiscal Year 1983, Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA will soon be available for those who are interested in a labor market analysis of the area.

IMPORTANT NOTICE - MAILING LIST UPDATE

Massachusetts Profiles are available for ten major labor markets in Massachusetts: Boston SMSA, Brockton, Fall River, Fitchburg-Leominster, Lawrence-Haverhill, Lowell, New Bedford, Pittsfield, Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke, and Worcester. They are desigend for people who want current regional labor market information for public policy or business decisions. If you wish to CONTINUE to receive Massachusetts Profiles after the end of the calendar year, please specify the Region(s) for which you wish to receive copies by writing to:

Publications Staff
Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
Job Market Research Publications
C.F. Hurley Building
Government Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Nov. 1982	Oct. 1982	Nov. 1981
LABOR FORCE	293,500	293,600	290,400
Employment	275,800	273,800	272,400
Unemployment	17,700	19,800	18,000
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.0	6.7	6.2
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	1,022	922	1,035
Continued Weeks Claimed	8,207	7,830	7,656

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	11635	4884	302	7063	NA
New Applicants (This Month)	6670	3099	781	3767	NA

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Nov. 1982
Unfilled Openings 2/	2484
Openings Received	1038

1/ Available During the Month

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1982	Oct. 1982	Nov. 1981
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	230.7	230.8	237.1
Nonmanufacturing - Total	172.8	172.4	172.9
Construction	5.9	6.0	6.4
Trans. & public utilities	8.9	8.9	9.4
Wholesale & retail trade	48.8	48.4	48.5
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.4	13.5	13.4
Services & mining	49.4	49.6	48.9
Government	46.4	46.0	46.3

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Nov. 1982	Oct. 1982	Nov. 1981
Manufacturing - Total	57.9	58.4	64.2
Durable Goods - Total	25.5	25.6	28.7
Primary metal industries	1.6	1.6	2.2
Fabricated metal products	8.1	8.2	9.4
Machinery (exc. electrical)	7.8	7.9	8.7
Spec. ind. mach.	1.6	1.6	1.6
Gen. ind. mach.	1.3	1.4	1.7
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	4.9	4.9	5.0
Electric equip.	3.2	3.7	3.2
Transportation equip.	--	--	--
Other durable goods	4.8	4.8	5.2
Nondurable Goods - Total	32.4	32.8	35.5
Textile mill products	1.7	1.6	2.0
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.6	2.5	2.7
Paper & paper products	7.0	7.1	7.4
Printing & publishing	5.8	5.9	6.4
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.3	3.1	3.6
Rubber & misc. plastics	--	--	--
Other Nondurable Goods	12.0	12.6	13.4

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Oct. 1982	Sept. 1982	Oct. 1981
Average Weekly Earnings	$310.84	$306.88	$290.58
Average Weekly Hours	39.8	39.7	41.1
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 7.81	$ 7.73	$ 7.07

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

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SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT TRENDS

Between December 1982 and January 1983 the number of unemployment insurance claims filed at local employment offices in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area (S-C-H LMA) rose by 1,800 from 10,230 to 12,030. The estimate of the total number of unemployed persons increased from 20,500 or 7.1 percent of the labor force in December to 24,700 or 8.6 percent of a somewhat smaller labor force in January.

The 8.6 percent unemployment rate in the S-C-H LMA in January compared with the 8.7 percent unadjusted rate for the State as a whole and was third lowest of the eight major labor market areas in the state. The jobless rate in the Lowell area was 6.9 percent. In Fall River it was 13.7 percent.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

Average hourly earnings of factory workers rose from $7.19 in January 1982 to $7.89 in January 1983. Earnings in chemicals at $10.41 per hour were the highest in manufacturing while the apparel workers were among the lowest paid at $5.45 per hour.

In January 1983 the average weekly hours worked in factories was 40.4 compared to 41.1 the prior month and 40.8 in January 1982. Textile workers averaged 44.7 hours of work compared to apparel workers, who worked only 34.9 hours per week.

COMPARISON OF THE UNEMPLOYED FROM THE CENSUS AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICE DATA

The 1980 Census estimated that 135,310 individuals were unemployed in Massachusetts. Active jobseekers not working who were registered with the Employment Service in March 1980 numbered 114,209 (84.4 percent of the individuals identified by the Census). Within the Boston SMSA, the 1980 Census estimated that number of unemployed individuals as 61,261. The Employment Service Automated Reporting System (ESARS) recorded 52,002 unemployed individuals registered with the employment service as of March 31, 1980. This represents 84.9 percent of the unemployed individuals within the Boston SMSA enumerated by the Census. Within the Balance of Massachusetts, 74,049 individuals were identified by the Census as unemployed. ESARS data indicates that in March 1980, active DES jobseekers not working within the Balance of Massachusetts numbered 62,207.

NEW ELECTRONIC NEWS RELEASE

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has begun an electronic news release service that permits persons interested in the Bureau's national economic indicators to gain access directly from computer in which they are stored. Information about electronic news releases is available from the Office of Publications, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, D.C. 20212. BLS data summary is available 24 hours a day on (202) 523-9658.

MAILING LIST UPDATE

This is a reminder that Massachusetts Profiles are available for ten major labor markets in Massachusetts: Boston, Brockton, Fall River, Fitchburg-Leominster, Lawrence-Haverhill, Lowell, New Bedford, Pittsfield, Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke and Worcester. If you wish to continue to receive the publications or if you wish to begin receiving it, please specify the Region (s) for which you wish to receive copies. Please write to:

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Massachusetts Division of Employment Security
Charles F Hurley Building
Government Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Jan. 1983	Dec. 1982	Jan. 1982
LABOR FORCE	285,500	288,200	290,500
Employment	260,800	267,700	267,100
Unemployment	24,700	20,500	23,400
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.6	7.1	8.1
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	1162	2597	1319
Continued Weeks Claimed	12030	10230	11713

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	11527	4580	2154	1697	DNA
New Applicants (This Month)	2886	1129	404	1746	DNA

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Jan. 1983
Unfilled Openings 2/	2449
Openings Received	558

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Jan. 1983	Dec. 1982	Jan. 1982
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	220.1	229.2	225.2
Nonmanufacturing - Total	164.7	173.3	165.0
Construction	4.7	5.6	5.0
Trans. & public utilities	8.6	8.7	9.1
Wholesale & retail trade	46.4	49.3	47.0
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.4	13.3	13.2
Services & mining	47.1	48.7	46.6
Government	44.5	47.7	44.1
Manufacturing - Total	55.4	55.9	60.2
Durable Goods - Total	24.7	24.7	27.4
Primary metal industries	1.6	1.5	2.0
Fabricated metal products	8.3	8.3	9.4
Machinery (exc. electrical)	7.5	7.5	8.3
Spec. ind. mach.	1.4	1.4	1.6
Gen. ind. mach.	1.4	1.4	1.6
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	4.7	4.7	5.1
Electric equip.	2.7	2.7	2.9
Transportation equip.	--	--	--
Other durable goods	4.6	4.7	5.0
Nondurable Goods - Total	30.8	31.2	32.6
Textile mill products	1.6	1.6	1.8
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.5	2.5	2.6
Paper & paper products	7.4	7.5	7.5
Printing & publishing	5.3	5.4	5.2
Chemicals & allied prod.	2.8	2.9	3.3
Rubber & misc. plastics	--	--	--
Other Nondurable Goods	11.2	11.3	11.7

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Jan. 1983	Dec. 1982	Jan. 1982
Average Weekly Earnings	$318.76	$323.87	$293.35
Average Weekly Hours	40.4	41.1	40.8
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 7.89	$ 7.88	$ 7.19

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

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Massachusetts Profiles

Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

CETA REPLACED

The recently enacted federal Job Training Partnership Act will replace CETA as the government sponsored Job Training Program. The responsibility for administering the training program had been transferred from federal agencies to the states. Massachusetts will receive $59,191,076 for the training program, some 22 percent of which will be used for administrative cost while the remaining 78 percent will go to Regional Service Delivery Areas (SDA). Most of the Hampden County SDA and part of the Franklin/Hampshire County SDA are within the boundaries of the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area. The SDA's will have autonomy in deciding how they will spend their training funds. Local Private Industry Councils will decide what training programs will be offered. The councils will be made up of business officials and representatives from the Division of Employment Security, the Welfare Department, Education and other local organizations.

Training will be targeted to unemployed persons such as those permanently displaced by factory closings, Aid to Families with Dependent Children recipients, school-age youth entering the labor force, handicapped workers, and others such as older workers and persons released from prison and are finding it difficult to find jobs.

TAX CREDITS FOR HIRING TEENAGERS

The new federal government Targeted Job Tax Credit (TJTC) program will give employers who hire economically disadvantaged youth a federal tax credit of up to $2,550 of the total salary paid to each employee. Assuming that a youth is paid minimum wages for the summer, as much as 85 percent of the amount can be written off on the employer's tax return. The DES is the only agency which can certify summer youth employees for the tax credit.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Hourly, weekly and yearly earnings for selected occupations in the Western region of the state are contained in a booklet published by the Occupation/Industry Research Department of the Division of Employment Security. The full title of the report is Wage and Salary Data for Selected Occupation Boston and Worcester Metropolitan Areas Western and Northern and Southeastern Regions. The information is prepared from area and industry wage surveys conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The Occupation/Industry Research will also collect wage and salary data for all regions of the state through its own area wage survey commencing August, 1983. Publication should commence in the spring of 1984.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Mar. 1983	Feb. 1983	Mar. 1982
LABOR FORCE	284,300	280,600	289,500
Employment	261,900	258,200	267,100
Unemployment	22,400	22,900	22,400
Unemployment Rate 3/	7.9	8.0	7.7
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	629	955	819
Continued Weeks Claimed	8788	9558	10894

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISAD-VANTAGED
Active Applicants	11264	4324	2239	1965	INA
New Applicants (This Month)	19023	8759	2290	3930	INA

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Mar. 1983
Unfilled Openings 2/	2463
Openings Received	6221

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Mar. 1983	Feb. 1983	Mar. 1982
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	223.5	223.0	228.3
Nonmanufacturing - Total	168.7	168.2	169.1
Construction	4.5	4.5	4.8
Trans. & public utilities	8.5	8.5	9.1
Wholesale & retail trade	46.3	46.2	47.0
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.5	13.4	13.1
Services & mining	48.5	48.2	47.9
Government	47.4	47.4	47.2
Manufacturing - Total	54.8	54.8	59.2
Durable Goods - Total	24.2	24.3	27.1
Primary metal industries	1.6	1.6	1.9
Fabricated metal products	7.8	7.9	9.3
Machinery (exc. electrical)	7.4	7.5	8.3
Spec. ind. mach.	1.3	1.4	1.6
Gen. ind. mach.	1.3	1.4	1.6
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	4.8	4.7	5.1
Electric equip.	2.7	2.7	2.8
Transportation equip.	--	--	--
Other durable goods	4.7	4.6	4.8
Nondurable Goods - Total	30.6	30.5	32.1
Textile mill products	1.6	1.6	1.8
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.4	2.4	2.4
Paper & paper products	7.4	7.3	7.3
Printing & publishing	5.2	5.3	5.6
Chemicals & allied prod.	2.9	2.9	3.3
Rubber & misc. plastics	11.1	11.0	11.7

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Mar. 1983	Feb. 1983	Mar. 1982
Average Weekly Earnings	$324.81	$304.51	$295.57
Average Weekly Hours	40.5	38.4	40.6
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 8.02	$ 7.93	$ 7.28

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EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Springfield Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area rose seasonally by 1700 jobs between April and May. Most of the increase (+1100) occurred in the Service industries. The Trade, Finance, Insurance and Real Estate, and Construction industries each showed a 300-job increase over the month, while Government lost 500 jobs because of the school year ending in state educational institutions.

Over the year since May 1982, however, nonfarm employment employment declined by nearly 5000 jobs, 2400 in the durable goods subsector alone. The losses were concentrated in factories producing fabricated metals, with smaller losses reported in primary metals and nonelectrical machinery. The only other major nondurable goods manufacturing industry, electrical machinery, remained stable over the year.

The nondurable goods group of industries, the larger subsection of manufacturing, suffered small widely scattered losses over the year (-1500) in all industries except apparel and paper goods.

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

The research staffs of the Division of Employment Security and the Department of Manpower Development have jointly produced planning information reports containing population, labor force, and demographic information for the Western region of the state. This region includes Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire counties. A special feature of this report is the aggregation of data by Service Delivery Area.

The Division of Employment Security is publishing three additional reports that will be useful to manpower planners. The first, Massachusetts Employment: Projected Changes 1980 to 1990, contains detailed industry projections for the decade. This report will help in identifying high growth industries and in pointing out potential sources of dislocated workers. The second report, Structure of the Massachusetts Job Market: Volume III, Industries, contains detailed occupational profiles for all major industries. This report will help in identifying the jobs which can be expected to be created due to industry expansions. Training programs can then be directed towards business' labor force requirements. The final report is Occupations in Massachusetts: Projected Changes 1980-1990. This report details occupational demand during the decade. It illustrates the relative growth of each occupation with annual change due to industry growth and that due to people leaving the labor force.

LABOR SURPLUS AREA CLASSIFICATIONS EXTENDED

There is good news for those cities and towns that were scheduled for Labor Surplus Area decertification as of May 31, 1983. Under new legislation, they will now remain certified until October 1, 1983. This will be good news for many areas for they will remain eligible for federal procurement preference for an extra four months.

TUITION WAIVER PROGRAM FOR UNEMPLOYED WORKERS

The Massachusetts Board of Regents has announced tuition waiver extensions for the 1983-84 academic year at state colleges and universities. This program recognizes the responsibility of the Commonwealth to provide assistence to the unemployed. Eligibility for waivers is restricted to Massachusetts residents receiving unemployment benefits at the time of course registration. Eligibility also applies to those residents who have exhausted benefits and remain unemployed Students under this program may enroll for a maximum of 11 credit hours, if they are receiving unemployment benefits. Those who have exhausted benefits can enroll as full-time students. Applications for tuition waivers must have their benefit status confirmed by the Divison of Employment Security or the participating school. Applicants receiving benefits must remain available for employment while enrolled under this program.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	May 1983	April 1983	May 1982
LABOR FORCE	282,900	281,200	291,200
Employment	264,100	262,300	265,900
Unemployment	18,800	18,500	25,300
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.6	6.6	8.7
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	1007	971	362
Continued Weeks Claimed	7468	8437	3965

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	11127	4303	2130	2196	NA
New Applicants (This Month)	2783	1267	306	651	NA

JOB OPENINGS 1/	May 1983
Unfilled Openings 2/	2673
Openings Received	5429

1/ Available During the Month
1. At End of Period 2. Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	May 1983	April 1983	May 1982
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	226.9	225.2	231.7
Nonmanufacturing - Total	172.3	170.7	173.2
Construction	5.6	5.3	5.8
Trans. & public utilities	8.6	8.5	9.2
Wholesale & retail trade	46.8	46.5	48.1
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.9	13.6	13.6
Services & mining	50.2	49.1	49.5
Government	47.2	47.7	47.0

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	May 1983	April 1983	May 1982
Manufacturing - Total	54.6	54.5	58.5
Duraole Goods - Total	23.9	24.2	26.3
Primary metal industries	1.6	1.6	1.8
Fabricated metal products	7.5	7.9	9.0
Machinery (exc. electrical)	7.2	7.2	7.8
Spec. ind. mach.	1.3	1.3	1.4
Gen. ino. mach.	1.2	1.2	1.5
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	4.7	4.7	4.9
Electric equip.	2.8	2.7	2.8
Transportation equip.	--	--	--
Other durable goods	4.8	4.8	4.9
Nondurable Goods - Total	30.7	30.3	32.2
Textile mill products	1.6	1.6	1.8
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.5	2.5	2.5
Paper & paper products	7.3	7.3	7.2
Printing & publishing	5.4	5.2	5.5
Chemicals & allied prod.	2.7	2.9	3.2
Misc. Manufacturing	4.8	4.7	5.3
Other Nondurables	6.4	6.1	6.7

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	May 1983	April 1983	May 1983
Average Weekly Earnings	$325.61	$323.60	$301.59
Average Weekly Hours	40.6	40.5	40.7
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 8.02	$7.99	$ 7.41

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthampton, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbraham, Williamsburg.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

Massachusetts Profiles are published monthly by the DES Job Market Research Service, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

AREA UNEMPLOYMENT DECLINES

The Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area unemployment rate at 6.4 percent showed continued improvement over the June rate of 7.6 percent and the year-ago rate of 9.2 percent. The area rate was only slightly higher than the unadjusted Massachusetts rate of 6.2 percent. Of the major labor market areas in the state, only Boston (5.3 percent) and Lowell (5.2 percent) have lower unemployment rates in July.

JOBS ALSO DECLINE

Over the month, all major industry groups showed a loss of jobs except Finance, Insurance and Real Estate, which remained unchanged at 13,800. An over-the-year comparison shows job increases only in the service industry and government, at the state and local levels. There also was an overall loss of 1,600 jobs in the area since July 1982.

FACTORY HOURS AND EARNINGS

The average workweek among factory workers in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA in July was 40.7 hours. The average weekly hours among textile workers was 46.7 hours while production workers in printing and publishing worked 37.3 hours.

A comparison of average hourly earnings among production workers shows that workers in the chemicals industry earned the highest pay at $10.03. The lowest hourly earnings was among apparel workers at $4.67, a figure lower than the $5.28 per hour earned a year ago in that industry. A year ago in July 1982, the highest hourly earnings were among workers in the special industry machinery subsection of the nonelectrical machinery industry at $10.38 per hour.

JOBLESS HEALTH CARE

A jobless health care bill has been passed by the House and is now going to the Senate. The bill includes grants to the states and requires employers to continue health insurance for laid-off workers for 90 days. It also provides money for hospitals that treat the poor. States should be required to charge small fees for health services and could impose premiums to be deducted from the worker's unemployment check.

OUTLOOK FOR COLLEGE GRADS

The U. S. Department of Labor published a new report titled Employment Outlook for 1983 College Graduates in New England. According to the report, 1983 graduates face the worst employment prospects in over two decades. Recruiting activity has declined for two consecutive years. Grads with technical and health-related degrees fared better than their counterparts in other disciplines, but even these graduates had fewer job offers from which to select compared to other years. There will be a 2 or 3 million surplus of college graduates entering the labor force in the 1980's. As many as one out of five graduates will end up in jobs not requiring a degree. It is estimated that 3.8 million college graduates currently in the labor force are either underemployed or unemployed.

NEW FEDERAL PUBLICATIONS

The 1982-1983 Occupational Outlook Handbook is now published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It is available from the U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington D.C. 20402. The handbook includes job descriptions of 250 occupations, job prospects to 1990, personal qualifications educational and training requirements, working conditions, earnings and sources of additional job-related information.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	July 1983	June 1983	July 1982
LABOR FORCE	289,200	286,300	291,300
Employment	270,600	264,400	264,600
Unemployment	18,600	21,900	26,700
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.4	7.6	9.2
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	882	1,086	1,183
Continued Weeks Claimed	7,170	6,973	9,492

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	10,809	4,308	2,046	2,198	NA
New Applicants (This Month)	29,990	13,774	3,468	6,435	NA

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	July 1983
Unfilled Openings 2/	3,679
Openings Received	1,884

1/ At End of Period 2/ Farm and Nonfarm

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	July 1983	June 1983	June 1982
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	221.5	225.1	223.1
Nonmanufacturing - Total	166.6	169.6	166.4
Construction	5.8	6.0	6.1
Trans. & public utilities	8.2	8.6	8.6
Wholesale & retail trade	46.1	46.8	47.5
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.8	13.8	13.9
Services & mining	48.2	48.7	47.7
Government	44.5	45.7	42.6

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	July 1983	June 1983	June 1982
Manufacturing - Total	54.9	55.5	56.7
Durable Goods - Total	23.8	24.0	25.1
Primary metal industries	1.7	1.6	1.4
Fabricated metal products	7.2	7.4	8.7
Machinery (exc. electrical)	7.3	7.4	7.5
Spec. ind. mach.	1.3	1.4	1.3
Gen. ind. mach.	1.3	1.3	1.5
Other mach. (ex. elec.)	4.7	4.7	4.7
Electric equip.	2.7	2.7	2.6
Transportation equip.	--	--	--
Other durable goods	4.9	4.9	4.9
Nondurable Goods - Total	31.1	31.5	31.6
Textile mill products	1.5	1.5	1.6
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.2	2.6	2.4
Paper & paper products	7.2	7.5	7.1
Printing & publishing	5.7	5.6	5.6
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.2	3.0	3.2
Misc. Manufacturing	4.9	4.9	5.4
Other Nondurables	6.4	6.4	6.3

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	July 1983	June 1983	June 1982
Average Weekly Earnings	$332.93	$330.08	$305.56
Average Weekly Hours	40.7	40.7	40.1
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 8.18	$ 8.11	$ 7.62

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

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SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

AREA ECONOMY STILL IMPROVING

Economic indicators in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market area in November 1983 show that the area is fully recovering from the recent prolonged recession. Both the number of residents employed and the number of nonagricultural jobs in the labor market area increased over the year, while the number of unemployed residents have decreased. The unemployment rate in November 1983 of 5.6 percent compared favorably to the 6.1 percent in November 1982.

Manufacturing payrolls which peaked in 1979, are still declining but at a slower pace, with a loss of only 400 jobs since November 1982. The largest manufacturing industry, fabricated metals, suffered a loss of 700 jobs over the year, largely due to the stiff competion faced by Smith and Wesson, a producer of revolvers. Police departments, nationwide, are showing a preference for semiautomatic handguns.

However, the area's economic strength lies in the ability to attract new businesses because of its qualified labor force, good industrial mix and proximity to universities. Several new companies have come into the area including Wang Laboratories, which will begin operations in March 1984 and will eventually employ several hundred workers.

Polymer Laboratories Ltd. recently leased a building in Amherst to produce instruments that analyze the chemical content of plastics. The company chose the area because of its proximity to U. Mass Polymer Science and Engineering School. The University's research is already a leader, world wide, and should maintain that role with the help of state funding and the cooperation of area industries including General Electric Co. in Pittsfield and Monsanto Corp. in Springfield.

MANUFACTURERS PLAN MORE HIRING

The survey of area firms by Manpower Inc., a temporary employment service company, found that 27 percent of Greater Springfield employers plan to hire additional workers in the first quarter of 1984, while 23 percent plan reductions and 50 percent plan no change. This compares favorably with one year ago when 10 percent of employers expected to add workers and another 10 percent expected to reduce payrolls. Hiring will occur in manufacturing in both durable and nondurable goods, especially for light industrial work. As expected in the first quarter, layoffs will occur in trade and construction.

MIFA CREATES NEW JOBS

A manufacturer of vinly film and plastic textiles, in Chicopee, Dielectric Industries, Inc. has received approval from the Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) for a $750,000 revenue bond to construct and equip and addition to its current facility. The company has 205 employees and expects to add 25 more as a result of the expansion. The bond was one of 17 projects recently approved by MIFA. The projects total $43 million and will create an estimated 1585 new, permanent jobs.

DISLOCATED WORKERS PROGRAM

The Division of Employment Security in Springfield will assist in the implementation of the federally funded Dislocated Workers Program developed by the Employment Service Policy Office and other state and private agencies.

The target group of this program will be workers who have been unemployed 15 weeks or more and are unlikely to return to their former industry or occupation. The DES will provide job search and placement services to such workers.

Eight cities in the state presented proposals for their individually developed Comprehensive Worker Assistance Center. Springfield, Worcester, Lawrence, New Bedford and Pittsfield were the five cities selected for funding.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Nov. 1983	Oct. 1983	Nov. 1982
LABOR FORCE	293,600	289,300	291,600
Employment	277,200	271,100	273,700
Unemployment	16,400	18,400	17,900
Unemployment Rate 3/	5.6	6.4	6.1
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	775	529	1022
Continued Weeks Claimed	5382	4787	8207

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	11635	4884	2033	2301	--
New Applicants (This Month)	6670	3099	781	1464	--

JOB OPENINGS 1/	Nov. 1983
Openings Received	1038

1/ Available During the Month
1/ At End of Period

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WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) Nov. 1983	Oct. 1983	Nov. 1982
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	231.4	229.3	229.4
Nonmanufacturing - Total	175.3	173.2	172.9
Construction	5.8	5.8	5.6
Trans. & public utilities	8.3	8.5	8.8
Wholesale & retail trade	48.0	47.2	48.4
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.6	13.6	13.3
Services & mining	48.9	49.1	48.5
Government	50.7	49.0	48.3

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's) Nov. 1983	Oct. 1983	Nov. 1982
Manufacturing - Total	56.1	56.1	56.5
Durable Goods - Total	24.4	24.4	24.9
Primary metal industries	1.6	1.6	1.6
Fabricated metal products	7.7	7.7	8.4
Machinery (exc. electrical)	7.3	7.4	7.5
Spec. ind. macn.	1.3	1.4	1.4
Gen. ind. mach.	1.2	1.2	1.4
Other macn. (ex. elec.)	4.8	4.8	4.7
Electric equip.	2.8	2.8	2.7
Transportation equip.	--	--	--
Other durable goods	5.0	4.9	4.7
Nondurable Goods - Total	31.7	31.7	31.6
Textile mill products	1.8	1.8	1.6
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.2	2.2	2.5
Paper & paper products	7.4	7.5	7.3
Printing & publishing	5.6	5.5	5.4
Chemicals & allied prod.	3.0	3.0	2.9
Misc. manufacturing	4.7	4.7	5.0
Other Nondurable Goods	7.0	6.7	6.9

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	Nov. 1983	Oct. 1983	Nov. 1982
Average Weekly Earnings	$338.24	$332.38	$317.12
Average Weekly Hours	40.9	40.3	40.5
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 8.27	$ 8.26	$ 7.83

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

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SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

UNEMPLOYMENT UP IN THE SPRINGFIELD AREA

Some 266,600 people were employed during January in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area and 23,300 were jobless. In December, there were 276,400 with jobs and 18,300 unemployed.

The unemployment rate in the labor market area jumped from 6.2 percent in December to 8.0 percent in January 1984. The major reason for the rise was post-holiday layoffs in retail outlets. In the wholesale and retail trade industry there were 48,200 working during January compared with the 52,500 employed for the Christmas shopping season.

The rise in unemployment was supported by an increase of 700 in the number of claims for unemployment benefits during the survey week in January.

Most other areas in the state experienced similar increases in the unemployment rate. The seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate for Massachusetts rose from 5.8 percent in December to 7.3 percent in January. Unemployment in the Metropolitan Boston area went from 4.7 percent to 6.1 percent from 4.5 percent to 5.5 percent in the Lowell LMA; from 5.6 percent to 7.2 percent in the Worcester LMA from 6.0 percent to 7.8 percent in the Lawrence-Haverhill area and from 6.5 percent to 8.9 percent in Brockton.

AREA EMPLOYERS OPTOMISTIC

In a survey conducted nationwide by Manpower Inc., a temporary help firm, it was found that half of the employers surveyed in the Springfield area plan to hire additional workers in the second quarter of 1984. Also, only 3 percent plan reductions in payrolls compared to the 7 percent a year ago. Nationwide, only 30 percent of employers plan to hire new workers, demonstrating the strength of the local economy.

NEW DES PUBLICATION

The Division of Employment Security has printed a Job Market Research publication entitled Planning Data: Western Mass. & Associated SDA's-FY 1984. Western Mass. includes 3 Service Delivery areas(SDA): the Berkshire, Franklin/Hampshire and Hampden. Among the topics discussed in the report are the geographic definition of the SDA's,population characteristics, population and target groups eligible for assistance, unemployment trends and characteristics and employment development by industry.

Although the publication has been prepared mainly to assist employment and training professionals in carrying out provisions of the Job Training Partnership Act, the data is also intended for a variety of users who require labor market information for planning purposes. If you wish this publication please write to: Research and Policy Service, Mass.Division of Employment Security, 19 Stamford Street, Boston, MA 02114.

MIFA HELPS AREA FIRMS

The Massachusetts Industrial Finance Agency (MIFA) is an independent public agency designed to stimulate hiring by offering important financing incentives to expanding firms. These incentives are tax-exempt financing and industrial and commercial mortgage insurance. Listed here are the 14 firms, the bond amount approved during 1983, and the number of new jobs expected (a total of 349 jobs) to result from the expandion in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA and the adjacent Ware LMA.

Company	Location	Bond Amount	# Jobs
Hoover Universal Inc.	E. Longmeadow	$ 2,000,000	10
Ware Foundry Inc.	Ware	250,000	27
Ludlow Corp.	Ware	2,600,000	15
Rotman Mfg. Co.	Springfield	1,086,000	20
Zaks Associates	Holyoke	300,000	50
Bridgeport National Bindery Inc.	Agawam	500,000	20
Gillespie Corp.	Ware	300,000	10
Holyoke Water Power Co.	Holyoke	15,000,000	78
Abdow Corp.	Springfield	1,400,000	15
Quabbin Wire & Cable Co.	Ware	750,000	12
Dietectrics Industries Inc.	Chicopee	750,000	25
Schoolhouse Assoc. West.	Westfield	1,500,000	30
S & S Distributing Co.	Chicopee	1,700,000	35

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	Jan. 1984	Dec. 1983	Jan. 1983
LABOR FORCE	290,100	294,700	287,300
Employment	266,800	276,400	261,500
Unemployment	23,300	18,300	25,800
Unemployment Rate 3/	8.0	6.2	9.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	825	1031	1162
Continued Weeks Claimed	8200	7152	12030

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	8386	2934	1882	1607	INA
New Applicants (This Month)	14236	6082	1821	3047	INA

JOB OPENINGS 1/	
Openings Received	921

1/ Available During the Month

1/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	Jan. 1984	Dec. 1983	Jan. 1983
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	224.2	237.9	224.5
Nonmanufacturing - Total	168.8	182.1	169.6
Construction	5.0	6.0	5.0
Trans. & public utilities	9.3	9.4	9.1
Wholesale & retail trade	48.2	52.5	47.5
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.8	13.9	13.6
Services & mining	48.8	51.0	48.8
Government	43.7	49.3	45.6
Manufacturing - Total	55.4	55.8	54.9
Durable Goods - Total	28.9	28.7	28.7
Primary metal industries	--	--	--
Fabricated metal products	7.7	7.7	8.0
Machinery (exc. electrical)	7.2	6.8	7.1
Other Durable Goods	14.0	14.2	13.6
Nondurable Goods - Total	26.5	27.1	26.2
Textile mill products	1.8	1.8	1.7
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.4	2.5	2.3
Paper & paper products	7.3	7.4	7.2
Printing & publishing	5.7	5.8	5.5
Other Nondurable Goods	9.3	9.6	9.5

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS			
Average Weekly Earnings Average Weekly Hours Average Hourly Earnings	I	N	A

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthampton, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbraham, Williamsburg.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Michael S. Dukakis, Governor
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Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

JOBLESSNESS DECLINES

The rate of unemployment declined seasonally in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area from 7.1 percent in February to 6.6 percent in March. The reduction in rate was the result of an increase of employed residents from 267,600 in February to 269,300 in March and a decrease in the number of unemployed persons from 20,600 to 19,000. The improvement in labor market conditions was reinforced by the very favorable comparison with year-ago figures. In March 1983, some 262,600 residents were employed and 23,300 were unemployed, resulting in an unemployment rate of 8.1 percent. These estimates are supported by the count of claimants for unemployment insurance benefits during the survey weeks in the Springfield area local employment offices. There were 7,491 claims for unemployment benefits in March 1984, 8,106 in February 1984, and 10,402 in March 1983.

ADJACENT AREA RATES ARE HIGHER

In the adjacent Ware LMA, which includes the towns of Hardwick, New Braintree, Oakham, Ware and West Brookfield, the unemployment rate for March was 9.6 percent. In the Athol LMA which includes the towns of Athol, Barre, Erving, New Salem, Orange, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston, Warwick and Wendell, the jobless rate in March was 12.1 percent. When compared with the neighboring areas of the western region, the unemployment rate of 6.6 percent for the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA is indicative of how well the local economy is faring.

STATEWIDE COMPARISONS

Although higher than the state unemployment rate of 5.8 percent, the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA jobless rate of 6.6 percent compares favorably with the 9.1 percent in the Fall River LMA and 9.0 percent in the New Bedford LMA. The lowest rates among the major labor areas were measured in the Lowell LMA at 4.3 percent and Boston SMSA at 4.8 percent. Worcester, the nearest major labor market area to the Springfield area, had a 5.4 percent unemployment rate.

JOBS INCREASE MODERATELY

A comparison of nonagricultural employment in the area shows a gain of 700 jobs between February and March. The gains were fairly small and widely scattered among manufacturing and most nonmanufacturing industries.

Over the year, the nondurable goods sector of manufacturing added some 500 jobs due to hiring in such industries as printing and publishing, chemicals and plastics. This moderate increase in manufacturing activity is significant because it marks a reversal of a long-term decline in factory employment that began in 1979.

NEW LIST OF LABOR SURPLUS AREAS (LSA)

Belchertown, Chesterfield, and Wales in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA will meet the requirements to be classified as Labor Surplus Areas (LSA). This classification makes them eligible for preference in the award of Federal procurement contracts and grants in the period starting October 1, 1984 through September 30, 1985. Wales' status remains unchanged for it is currently listed as a labor surplus area.

In the nearby Ware LMA, Hardwick, Oakham, and Ware will be eligible for preference beginning October 1, 1984. In the Athol LMA, all municipalities except Barre and Petersham will be included on the list.

REGISTERED OPENINGS

Occupations in the Springfield area local offices with 50 or more openings during March include: Sales Clerk, Farm Worker, Restaurant Counter Worker, Waiter and Waitress, Psychiatric Aide, General Duty Nurse, Insurance Sales Person and Materials Handler.

NEW DES PUBLICATION

The Division of Employment Security (DES) has recently published Distribution of Establishments and Employment by Size Groups.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	March 1984	Feb. 1984	March 1983
LABOR FORCE	288,300	288,200	285,900
Employment	269,300	267,600	262,600
Unemployment	19,000	20,600	23,300
Unemployment Rate 3/	6.6	7.1	8.1
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE			
Initial Claims	549	871	582
Continued Weeks Claimed	7491	8106	10402

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	8780	3302	1833	1774	--
New Applicants (This Month)	19200	8268	854	4126	--

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1/	March 1984
Openings Received	1608

1/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	March 1984	Feb. 1984	March 1983
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	229.1	228.4	229.0
Nonmanufacturing - Total	173.7	173.2	174.0
Construction	4.7	4.7	4.7
Trans. & Public utilities	9.3	9.2	9.2
Wholesale & retail trade	48.2	48.1	47.8
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.5	13.4	13.6
Services & mining	50.5	50.3	51.0
Government	47.6	47.5	47.7

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT (000's)		
	March 1984	Feb. 1984	March 1983
Manufacturing - Total	55.3	55.2	55.0
Durable Goods - Total	28.6	28.4	28.8
Primary metals industries			
Fabricated metal products	7.7	7.6	8.0
Machinery, (exec. electrical)	6.9	6.8	7.1
Spec. ind. mach.			
Gen. ind. mach.			
Other mach. (ex. elec.)			
Electric equip.			
Transportation equip.			
Other durable goods	14.0	14.0	13.7
Nondurable Goods - Total	26.7	26.8	26.2
Textile mill products	1.7	1.8	1.7
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.2	2.4	2.3
Paper & paper products	7.2	7.2	7.2
Printing & publishing	5.7	5.7	5.5
Chemical & allied products			
Rubber & misc. plastics			
Other Nondurable Goods	9.9	9.7	9.5

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	March 1984	Feb. 1984	March 1983
Average Weekly Earnings	$345.83	$351.12	$323.60
Average Weekly Hours	41.0	41.9	40.5
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 8.43	$ 8.38	$ 7.99

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vacation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for weges for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

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GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthamoton, East Longmeedow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeedow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbranam, Williamsburg.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION

AREA UNEMPLOYMENT DECLINES

The unemployment rate in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area (LMA) dropped dramatically from 5.7 percent in April to 4.4 percent in May. The number of persons counted as unemployed dropped from 16,400 to 12,500. It was the lowest rate for May since 1979 when the unemployed were 4.3 percent of the labor force.

An even sharper decline in joblessness occurred over the year since May 1983 when nearly 20,000 persons, comprising 7.0 percent of the labor force, were unemployed.

The number of continued weeks claimed for unemployment insurance at local offices in the Springfield area also dropped, from 7,468 in May 1983 to 6,357 in April 1984 and, then further, to 5,181 in May 1984.

The decline in unemployment in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA paralleled those in the state and regions of the state as well as the nation. Between April and May of 1984 the Massachusetts seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined from 4.1 percent to 3.9 percent and the national rate dropped from 7.5 percent to 7.1. Among the ten major labor market areas, the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA ranked fifth with the Lowell, Boston, Worcester, and Fitchburg-Leominster LMA's having lower rates.

The highest unemployment rate in the state in May was 8.5 percent in the Athol Labor Market Area, which was 4.1 percentage points higher than the Springfield area rate. The lowest was 1.4 percent on Nantucket Island.

JOBS INCREASE

The number of nonfarm jobs in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA increased by 1,600 from 231,700 in April to 233,300 in May. Manufacturing industries added 100 workers over the month.

Over the year since May 1983, nonagricultural employment grew by 700 jobs. There were 900 more factory jobs in May 1984 than a year earlier bringing total manufacturing payrolls to 55,400. All the gains were in nondurable goods manufacturing.

In the nonmanufacturing sector, both transportation, communications and public utilities and trade grew by 200 jobs and government increased by 300. Finance, insurance and real estate lost 400 jobs over the year, services dropped 500 jobs, while construction payrolls were unchanged.

JOURNEY TO WORK PATTERNS

The 1980 census data shows that of the 61,784 Springfield residents in the labor force, 37,386 or 60.5 percent worked in the city. Some 2,918 additional individuals (4.7 percent) worked in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke SMSA, and 3,631 or 5.9 percent of Springfield's residents commuted to the Hartford, Connecticut SMSA for work.

Conversely, of the 74,604 persons who worked in the city of Springfield, some 70,368 or 94.3 percent lived in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke SMSA. Within the SMSA, the source of the largest number of workers were Chicopee (5,973), West Springfield (3,810), Agawam (3,640), Ludlow (3,603), and Longmeadow (2,577).

From the state of Connecticut came 3,423 workers, comprising 4.6 percent of the city of Springfield's work force. Some 1,200 commuted from the city of Hartford alone.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Research and Policy Department has recently published an analysis for the 15 service delivery areas (SDA) in Massachusetts, including the Hampden, Hampshire-Franklin and the Berkshire SDA's in the Western region of the state. In these reports are included the growth industries and growth occupations of the SDA's.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	May 1984	April 1984	May 1983
LABOR FORCE	286.3	289.6	294.5
Employment	274.3	273.2	264.6
Unemployment	12.5	16.4	19.9
Unemployment Rate 3/	4.4	5.7	7.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	503	371	1,007
Continued Weeks Claimed	5,181	6,357	7,468

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY	DISADVANTAGED
Active Applicants	9,439	3,701	1,730	2,351	[illegible]
New Applicants ..... (This Month)	2,392	933	249	609	[illegible]

JOB OPENINGS 1/	[illegible]
Openings Received	1,591

1/ Available During the Month

May 1984

1/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT ('000's) May 1984	April 1984	May 1983
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	233.3	231.7	232.6
Nonmanufacturing - Total	177.9	176.4	178.1
Construction	5.9	5.3	5.9
Trans. & Public Utilities	9.4	9.4	9.2
Wholesale & retail trade	50.1	49.5	49.9
Finance, ins. & real estate	13.8	13.7	14.2
Services & mining	51.2	51.0	51.7
Government	47.5	47.5	47.2
Manufacturing - Total	55.4	55.3	54.5
Durable Goods - Total	28.3	28.5	28.3
Fabricated metal prods.	7.6	7.6	7.6
Machinery, (exec. elec.)	6.8	6.9	6.8
Other Durable Goods	13.9	14.0	13.9
Nondurable Goods - Total	27.1	26.8	26.2
Textile mill products	1.7	1.7	1.7
Apparel & other textile prod.	2.2	2.2	2.4
Paper & paper products	7.2	7.2	7.1
Printing & publishing	5.6	5.6	5.6
Other Nondurable Goods	10.4	10.1	9.4

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	May 1984	April 1984	May 1983
Average Weekly Earnings	$349.86	$349.02	$325.61
Average Weekly Hours	41.6	41.6	40.6
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 8.41	$ 8.39	$ 8.02

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the area (total employment plus total unemployment).

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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

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SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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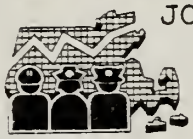
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA

JOB MARKET RESEARCH PUBLICATION



RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT UNCHANGED OVER MONTH

The rate of unemployment in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Labor Market Area (LMA) was 4.7 percent in both June and July 1984. A year ago in July, the rate was 2.1 percentage points higher. The Worcester Labor Market Area also had an unemployment rate of 4.7 percent in both June and July 1984.

Of the seven other major labor market areas in the state, Boston and Lowell, both with rates of 3.7 percent, registered lower jobless rates in July than in June. The jobless rate in the Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA remained unchanged at 5.6 percent. Brockton, Fall River, and New Bedford had higher rates in July than in June. The Fall River LMA had the highest unemployment rate with 7.1 percent of the labor force unemployed. By comparison the unadjusted unemployment rate of the state dropped .2 of a percentage point from 4.5 percent in June to 4.3 percent in July.

TWO YEAR JOB TRENDS SHOW RECOVERY

The most reliable source of information on the number of jobs in any area of the state is the records of the employer tax contributions to the Division of Employment Security's Unemployment Insurance Fund. A comparison of the 4th quarter data in 1981, 1982 and 1983 shows that the number of jobs in the S-C-H LMA declined sharply by 4,650 or 1.5 percent in the recessionary period between 1981 and 1982. However, between 1982 and 1983 there was a rebound of 7, 172 jobs bringing an overall increase of 1.7 percent in the number of jobs in the 2-year span between the 4th quarters of 1981 and 1983.

Over the same 2-year period, 4th quarter 1981 to 4th quarter 1983, only the Worcester LMA showed a net decrease in jobs (-1.7 percent) among the 8 major labor market area in the state. The Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke and Fall River Labor Market Areas shared the smallest percent increases (1.5 percent). The largest rate of job growth was registered in the Lowell LMA with a 13.9 percent increase between 1981 and 1983.

COMMUTING PATTERNS IN AMHERST AREA

Although the university town of Amherst is part of the S-C-H LMA, it is also a center of employment for 7 surrounding towns according to 1980 Census Journey-to-Work-Data. Some 10,404 or 70 percent of Amherst's resident labor force worked in their home town. In the surrounding towns, the number and proportion of the resident labor force that worked in Amherst were as follows: Sunderland, 779 or 46.1 percent; Hadley, 617 or 28.2 percent; Leverett, 337 or 43.5 percent; Pelham, 323 or 58.3 percent; Shutesbury, 233 or 41.7 percent; Hatfield, 173 or 11.3 percent; and Whately, 108 or 46.1 percent of that town's labor force.

The presence of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst College, and Hampshire College in Amherst creates a large number of jobs at local businesses which provide goods and services to thousands of students (11,800 at U. Mass alone), faculty members and retirees who are attracted to college communities. Students in particular have a strong influence on which types of business flourish in an academic area because of their higher-than average demand for snack foods, leisure wear school supplies, room furnishings and even small refrigerators.

In 1983, almost 29 percent of those employed in the private sector in Amherst worked in retail trade compared to 21 percent statewide. Twelve percent of Amherst's work force were employed in eating and drinking places compared to 6.8 percent statewide. Almost 53 percent of private sector jobs in Amherst were in the service division compared to 29 percent statewide.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
SELECTED PERIODS

LABOR FORCE 1/ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	MONTH 2/ AND YEAR		
	July 1984	June 1984	July 1983
LABOR FORCE	285,000	288,400	289,400
Employment	271,700	274,900	269,700
Unemployment	13,300	13,500	19,700
Unemployment Rate 3/	4.7	4.7	6.8
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ..			
Initial Claims	850	483	882
Continued Weeks Claimed	5358	4871	7170

1/ By Place of Residence
2/ Week That Includes the 12th of the Month
3/ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AVAILABLE APPLICANT - UNFILLED JOB OPENINGS

APPLICANTS 1/	TOTAL	FEMALE	VETERAN	MINORITY
Active Applicants	6037	3265	1557	1940
New Applicants (This Month)	2772	1214	304	697

1/ Available During the Month

JOB OPENINGS 1	July 1984
Openings Received	1170

1/ At End of Period

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY PLACE OF WORK

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT ('000's) July 1984	June 1984	July 1983
NONFARM EMPLOYMENT-TOTAL	224.1	230.0	227.0
Nonmanufacturing - Total	170.0	174.4	172.2
Construction	6.7	6.3	6.6
Trans. & Public utilities	9.1	9.5	8.9
Wholesale & retail trade	49.6	50.4	49.2
Finance, ins. & real estate	14.4	14.2	14.6
Services & mining	48.4	50.5	49.9
Government	41.8	43.5	43.0

MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISIONS AND GROUPS	EMPLOYMENT ('000's) July 1984	June 1984	July 1983
Manufacturing - Total	54.1	55.6	54.8
Duraole Goods - Total	27.4	28.4	28.4
Primary metals industries			
Faoricated metal products	7.2	7.6	7.5
Machinery, (exec. electrical)	6.7	6.9	6.8
Spec. ind. macn.			
Gen. ind. macn.			
Other macn. (ex. elec.)			
Electnc equip.			
Transportation equip.			
Other durable goods	13.5	13.9	14.1
Nondurable Goods - Total	26.7	27.2	26.4
Textile mill products	1.6	1.7	1.7
Apparel & other textile prod.	1.9	2.2	2.0
Paper & paper products	7.0	7.3	7.2
Printing & publishing	6.0	5.8	5.8
Chemical & allied products			
Rubber & misc. plastics			
Other Nondurable Goods	10.2	10.2	9.7

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ITEMS	July 1984	June 1984	July 1983
Average Weekly Earnings			
Average Weekly Hours	I	N	A
Average Hourly Earnings			

NOTE: Current Month Always Preliminary R: Revised

EXPLANATION OF DATA

LABOR FORCE - The sum of the employed and unemployed living in the aree (total emoloyment plus total unemployment).

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the aree, who did any work at all, in any area, for pay or profit during the week of the month including the 12th or who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, vecation, labor dispute or other reasons which do not reflect a shortage of work.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT - The count of persons, living in the area, who did no work at all, in any area, during the week of the month including the 12th, but who were looking for work or awaiting recall from layoff or beginning a new job within the next 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE - Unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT - The count of all nonfarm wage and salary workers who performed services for wages for any part of the pay period including the 12th of the month. This is a count of jobs in the area.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS - These are based on information for full-time and part-time production and related workers in manufacturing industries. Averages include overtime pay and premium wages. These are not wage rates but are average of gross earnings.

GEOGRAPHIC DEFINITION OF THE AREA - Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Brimfield, Chesterfield, Chicopee, Easthampton, East Longmeadow, Granby, Granville, Hadley, Hampden, Hatfield, Holyoke, Longmeadow, Ludlow, Monson, Montgomery, Northampton, Palmer, Pelham, Russell, South Hadley, Southampton, Southwick, Springfield, Wales, Warren, Westfield, Westhampton, West Springfield, Wilbranam, Williamsburg.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE LMA

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